<u>Press release: Government launches</u> <u>Defence Industry Dialogue with Japan</u>

Damian Green, the First Secretary of State and Minister for the Cabinet Office, will give the opening speech at the UK-Japan Defence Industry Dialogue event in London.

The First Secretary will be reinforcing the Government's commitment to strengthen ties with Japan and its defence industry at a critical time for both the UK and Japan — with the continued aim to spread jobs and prosperity across the two countries.

Japan is the UK's closest security partner in Asia, and the Prime Minister recently signed a Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation with the Prime Minister of Japan that evidences our strengthened defence and security cooperation.

The event at the ExCel centre showcases the very best of the British defence and security industry and exhibits cutting edge technology from the UK and around the world. The First Secretary will also use the event to meet with key businesses in the defence industry and speak to them about how both Governments can support stronger trade links between the UK and Japan.

Damian Green, First Secretary of State said:

The UK and Japan have a long-standing relationship and I am keen that our talks today will further strengthen this bond.

We want to see UK industry work closely with Japan to provide both our nations with the latest defence capabilities, and go further in developing technology, skills and innovation.

Today's event will spark a series of future meetings and workshops between the UK and Japanese defence industries, delivering on the Government's commitment to support an ever more outward-looking global Britain.