

**Declaration by
the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Denmark
concerning cooperation on broader matters relating to security, defence
and civil protection**

1. Iceland and Denmark reaffirm the political will to consult, coordinate and cooperate on matters relating to security, defence and civil protection in the North-Atlantic region. This is based on the North-Atlantic Treaty, NATO membership and on the obligations derived therefrom.

2. Bearing in mind our common interests in the North-Atlantic region, our primary aim is to contribute to permanent stability and security in this region. These common interests should be safeguarded through extended cooperation between our two countries, which will be further developed in partnership with other member states of NATO in the same area. Iceland and Denmark already have established practical cooperation on matters relating to security, defence and civil protection. An example of this is the Memorandum of Understanding of 11 January 2007 concerning cooperation in the areas of fishing observation, pollution surveillance and exchange of personnel.

3. Bilateral consultations have taken place with a view to establishing an open and pragmatic framework for strengthened consultation, coordination and cooperation on matters of mutual interest in the field of security, defence and civil protection, including the already well-functioning areas of practical cooperation.

4. Cooperation should take place where synergy can be achieved to our mutual benefit within existing resources and in a pragmatic manner.

5. On this basis, Iceland and Denmark agree that a framework for strengthened cooperation should encompass the following elements:

5.1. Iceland and Denmark declare their intention to consult semi-annually at the level of officials from the respective authorities on matters of mutual interest relating to security, defence and civil protection. The venue for consultations should alternate between Iceland and Denmark.

5.2. Identification of operative lines of communication and points of contact should take place between relevant national authorities.

5.3. A systematic exchange of information should take place when relevant to further coordination and cooperation on matters of mutual interest. The exchange of classified or otherwise protected information should be handled according to bilateral arrangements between Iceland and Denmark and according to already established NATO procedures.

5.4. Denmark will endeavour to contribute to the provision of training for civilian Icelandic personnel in specific areas when feasible. The details of such contribution should be agreed between Iceland and Denmark on a case-by-case basis.

5.5. Taking into account the on-going civil protection cooperation within the framework of the Nordic Directors-General meeting, Iceland and Denmark will examine the possibilities to strengthen still further the cooperation within the area of civil emergency management.

5.6. Iceland and Denmark will examine the possibilities for closer cooperation in contributing to international civil and military operations and exercises. Such possibilities could include cooperation in the framework of NATO operations, possible joint training, exchange of best practices and experiences from mission areas.

5.7. Iceland and Denmark will actively examine opportunities for mutual visits and participation in civil and military training and exercise activities by for example Danish and Icelandic aircraft, helicopters, naval and coast guard vessels, and special forces in the framework of NATO.

5.8. Iceland will provide Host Nation support for Danish personnel and activities in relation to agreed cooperation activities within Icelandic territory. The extent and type of Host Nation support to be provided by Iceland should in each case be determined prior to the cooperation activities taking place. Iceland will cover previously agreed expenses in relation to deployment, sustenance and necessary ground-support in connection with Danish use of defence infrastructure at Keflavik Airfield.

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