

Readout of U.S.-Republic of Korea Senior-level Teleconference

Republic of Korea Deputy Minister for Policy Wee Seung Ho held a phone call with David Helvey, who is performing the duties of U.S. assistant secretary of defense for Asian & Pacific security affairs to discuss a range of issues including, the recent U.S.-China Summit, the recent North Korea missile launch, and the ongoing search and rescue mission for missing personnel from the M/V Stellar Daisy

Deputy Minister Wee condemned the recent North Korean missile launch as a clear and flagrant violation of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, noting that North Korea's ballistic missile programs pose a serious threat to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia. Mr. Helvey agreed with the South Korean assessment of the launch and stressed the importance of continued Alliance cooperation to counter the growing North Korea nuclear and ballistic missile threats. Mr. Helvey and Deputy Minister Wee agreed to continue to consult closely on developments regarding North Korea.

Finally, Deputy Minister Wee expressed his gratitude for the P-8 Poseidon that the U.S. provided in support of the search and rescue efforts for the missing crew members of the M/V Stellar Daisy, and requested continuous support from the U.S. in future SAR efforts.

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