



Government House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
18 May 2022

Honorary Appointment – May 2022 (3)

The Governor-General is pleased to announce the following appointment:

OFFICER (AO) IN THE MILITARY DIVISION

General YAMAZAKI Koji, Japan

For distinguished service to strengthening the defence relationship between Australia and Japan through commitment, leadership and strategic foresight as Chief of Ground Staff, and Chief of Staff, Joint Staff of the Japan Self-Defense Forces.

By His Excellency's Command

Paul Singer MVO

Official Secretary to the Governor-General

APPOINTED AN HONORARY OFFICER (AO)
IN THE MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

General YAMAZAKI Koji, Japan

For distinguished service to strengthening the defence relationship between Australia and Japan through commitment, leadership and strategic foresight as Chief of Ground Staff, and Chief of Staff, Joint Staff of the Japan Self-Defense Forces.

General Yamazaki has consistently demonstrated his commitment to further strengthening and deepening the defence relationship with Australia during his tenure as both Chief of Ground Staff and Chief of Joint Staff.

As a like-minded democracy with shared values and outlook on regional security issues, Japan's prominence as one of Australia's most important regional security partners has grown significantly in recent years. General Yamazaki's leadership of the Japan Self-Defense Forces during this time has placed him at the forefront of bringing our two defence organisations even closer together.

He has established and maintained strong interpersonal relationships with his Chief of Army and Chief of the Defence Force counterparts throughout his tenure. For each, General Yamakazi has been one of their most important regional partners for engaging on regional security issues. Each has highly valued and appreciated his assessments of regional and global security concerns, views on dealing with security challenges, and leadership in further growing our bilateral and trilateral (with the US) security relationships.

He has consistently advocated greater cooperation between the joint chiefs of staff of the Australian Army and the Japan Self Defense Forces, resulting in enhanced opportunities for senior military planners to work more closely together. This resulted in the establishment of the General Yamazaki Chief of Staff Commendation Award to honour exceptional chiefs of staff, of which Australian staff have been awarded.