

BEIJING, January 22, 2016 — U.S. and Chinese defense officials met in China January 22 for the Defense Policy Coordination Talks.

Abraham Denmark, deputy assistant secretary of defense for East Asia, led a delegation for talks with Rear Admiral Li Ji, deputy director of the Chinese ministry of national defense international military cooperation office.

The U.S. delegation included representatives from the Joint Staff, U.S. Pacific Command, and the State Department, while the Chinese delegation included representatives of the Ministry of National Defense and other military bodies.

The meeting is an important component of the broader program of engagements between the two nations' militaries, which seeks to foster sustained and substantive dialogue, deepen practical cooperation in areas of mutual interest, and focus on enhancing risk reduction.

This year's talks emphasized the positive momentum sustained in the U.S.-China military-to-military relationship over the past year, and set a direction for continued success in 2016. Key regional and global issues were also discussed.

This year's talks also included the annual meeting of the U.S.-China Notification of Major Military Activities Confidence Building Measures Working Group held in conjunction with the talks. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the Confidence Building Measures, exchanged views on the implementation of existing agreements, and discussed the value of substantive exchanges and the future of new initiatives.