

## **12th U.S.-ROK Security Policy Initiative Meeting Results**

On Monday, April 16th, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America held the 12th Security Policy Initiative (SPI) meeting in Washington, D.C., with Deputy Minister for Policy and Public Affairs Jeon, Jei Guk, leading the Republic of Korea delegation and Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Asian & Pacific Security Affairs Richard P. Lawless leading the U.S. delegation.

At the meeting, the two sides discussed important Alliance issues, including wartime operational control (OPCON) transition and United Nations Command armistice maintenance responsibility adjustment.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the status of the base relocation issue, which is progressing smoothly with the drafting of the Master Plan (MP) and selection of the Program Management Consortium (PMC). With regard to USFK camp returns, the two sides confirmed they will complete the return of the remaining nine camps, for which discussions have been ongoing in accordance with the SOFA procedures.

The two sides agreed to resolve important Alliance-related issues amicably, within the larger framework of the future-oriented development of the ROK-U.S. Alliance. The 13th SPI meeting will be held in Seoul on 7-8 June.