

## Joint Understanding

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Iceland,

Taking into account the evolving global strategic environment,

Noting the redeployment of United States forces from certain agreed areas and facilities in Iceland and the agreement signed on (date) between the Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Iceland regarding the withdrawal of those forces, namely, the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Iceland Regarding the Withdrawal of U.S. Forces From and the Return to Iceland of Certain Agreed Areas and Facilities in Iceland, and

Having conducted consultations regarding the future of their bilateral defense relationship and affirmed their continuing commitment to the Defense Agreement Pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Iceland, signed at Reykjavik on May 5, 1951,

Have reached the following understandings concerning activities that will serve to strengthen the bilateral defense relationship and to create a solid basis for future cooperation between the United States and Iceland in the areas of defense and security:

1. Consultations have taken place between Iceland and the U.S. regarding a plan for the defense of Iceland drafted by the United States. Iceland accepts the U.S. plan's provision for the defense of Iceland by means and forces that are dynamic and mobile in nature, with support as necessary from among U.S. military capabilities.
2. The United States and Iceland have established arrangements to ensure timely and effective communications in an emergency at both working and senior levels, including, as needed, through military channels.
3. It is the intention of the United States to conduct bilateral and/or multilateral exercises annually on Icelandic territory and in its territorial airspace and waters, upon the prior agreement of the Icelandic authorities.
4. The United States and Iceland note that the United States is undertaking to contract with the Icelandic Radar Agency and Iceland Telecom to operate the four Iceland Air Defense System (IADS) radar sites until August 15, 2007. During this period, Iceland and the United States intend to discuss bilaterally and with NATO the funding and disposition of the IADS system in Iceland and how the future operation of IADS might support NATO operational and training requirements. These discussions should also consider additional ways in which IADS may be of value to NATO.

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5. To facilitate continued close cooperation on issues related to the defense of Iceland, the United States and Iceland intend to establish a framework of regular security consultations, including:

a) Periodic senior-level strategic discussions to review the global security situation, developments in the North Atlantic region, and Iceland's defense needs;

b) Associated with these senior-level strategic meetings would be expert-level discussions on security issues, both military and non-military. Topics of discussion would include cooperation and information exchanges in such fields as counter terrorism, law enforcement, border control, and maritime security; and

c) Regular additional information and expert exchanges and provision of applicable military intelligence information, which would be coordinated through the Defense Attaché of the U.S. Embassy in Reykjavik.

6. Iceland intends to provide military and intelligence liaison to U.S. defense and military planners as required.

7. The United States and Iceland intend to explore increased cooperation between the U.S. and the Icelandic Coast Guard, through exercises, training activities, and personnel exchanges. Additional measures under consideration include an assessment by the U.S. Coast Guard of the Icelandic Coast Guard's training and procurement needs. The United States and Iceland also intend to discuss further Iceland's participation in activities undertaken pursuant to the 1999 U.S.-U.K.-Canada Search and Rescue Agreement.

8. The United States and Iceland intend to expand and invigorate programs in areas such as law enforcement and border security cooperation to deter and defend against threats posed to both countries by international terrorism, including through exercises, training activities, and personnel exchanges between police forces of both countries, U.S. special operations forces and Icelandic special police units, immigration, customs and border control authorities, and between the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and appropriate Icelandic officials.

Signed at \_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF ICELAND:

