

Readout of Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel's meeting with the Danish Minister of Defense Nicolai Wammen

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Immediate Release

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Assistant Pentagon Press Secretary Carl Woog provided the following readout:

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel met with the Danish Minister of Defense Nicolai Wammen this afternoon at the Pentagon.

Secretary Hagel thanked Minister Wammen for Denmark's contribution to the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Iraq, particularly for their contribution of F-16s that are conducting strike operations and their commitment to send up to 120 trainers to train Iraqi forces. They also exchanged views on the situation in Syria, the threat posed by the foreign fighters, and the importance of keeping up the pressure on ISIL supply lines and training facilities in Syria.

Secretary Hagel also thanked Minister Wammen for committing 160 troops and transport helicopters to the NATO Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan.

Secretary Hagel and Minister Wammen discussed international operations in West Africa to fight Ebola. Minister Wammen briefed Secretary Hagel on their plan to send 25 health care workers. They discussed the importance of continued international support to contain the disease.

They also discussed support to Ukraine, emphasizing that the U.S. and Denmark continue to present a united front with NATO to deal with Russia's aggressive behavior in the region. Secretary Hagel particularly welcomed the Danish contribution to NATO missile defense. Minister Wammen thanked Secretary Hagel's for his personal commitment and interest in the Arctic region and invited Secretary Hagel to visit the Kingdom of Denmark in the coming year.

They closed the meeting by affirming their commitment to continued cooperation on service member and veteran's care.

