

Istanbul Hosts First Political and Defense Committee Meeting Under Makkah Pact



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Istanbul, August 31 (QNA) – The first meeting of the Strategic Political and Defense Committee under the Makkah Joint Defense Agreement between Türkiye, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia kicked off in Istanbul on Monday.

Türkiye is hosting this meeting, which brings together the foreign and defense ministers and chiefs of staff of the three countries, with the aim of setting the strategic thrust for activities to be

carried out as part of the agreement.

The meeting is slated to explore issues of global security, bolster defense capabilities, and enhance interoperability among the armed forces of the three countries.

It will also discuss deepening cooperation in the defense industries, including joint production and research and development, as well as strengthening combined efforts to combat terrorism.

A framework for the General Secretariat is expected to be set, alongside other mechanisms that would direct work in the domains of joint activities determined by the committee, in addition to charting a roadmap for the upcoming steps.

On Aug. 7, 2026, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, HH Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia, Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif signed the aforementioned agreement.

The deal is part of defense cooperation aimed at strengthening commitments to safeguarding peace, stability, and well-being on both the regional and global stages, based on the principles of burden-sharing and a shared understanding of security.

It seeks to bolster collective deterrence in fending off any hostile action and contemplates that any armed attack on any of the three countries would be considered an attack on all.