ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership
Work Plan for 2013-2014 (Transport Facilitation)

Background

- For 5 years since the adoption of the “Manila Action Plan,” the current policy framework at the 6th ATM+J in 2008, transport network development in ASEAN has progressed steadily and ASEAN economy has grown remarkably. The current status surrounding the transport, including the demands on the transport network, safety, security, green transport and people’s living standards, has also drastically changed accordingly. Moreover, ASEAN is moving forward aggressively with its projects for ASEAN Connectivity in 2015 based on the “Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity” (MPAC) and the “Brunei Action Plan” (BAP).

- In 2013, taking into account the above situation, ASEAN and Japan conducted a review of the “Manila Action Plan” and will confirm the new policy frameworks of AJTP, called the “Pakse Action Plan,” based on the reorganized policy pillars for the next decade, as the conclusion of the review, at the 12th ATM+J held in Pakse, Lao PDR, on 13th December 2013.

- The basic role of transport is to carry goods or transfer passengers by connecting at several points. Implementation of transport network projects in ASEAN, such as the “ASEAN Highway Network,” has been accelerated based on MPAC and BAP, so that it has become easier to move goods and people in the region.

- However there is no doubt that the flow of goods and passengers in ASEAN will continue to increase greatly in line with the development of economic growth. Our efforts to improve the transport network to meet increasing usage are still required over the next decade.

- Physical connections are not sufficient to realize further improvement in the transport network to support economic activities and achieve connectivity. Institutional harmonization and the development of capacity are vital. We are still experiencing some difficulties even though, in recent years, the harmonization of cross-border rules has been promoted and logistics capacity has been improved in order to realize smooth and efficient transport.

- The “Transport Facilitation” policy pillar is aimed at ensuring integrated, efficient and seamless transport for logistics and passengers through
regulation and system harmonization as well as capacity building for meeting standards. Transport Facilitation will contribute to the vitalization of industry, tourism and economy in the region.

**Previous Work**

- **ASEAN-Japan Transport Logistics Project**

  The objective of this project is to develop the logistics infrastructure as well as to improve institutional/operational aspects. For this purpose, the “ASEAN-Japan Transport Logistics Improvement Plan (A-J TLIP)” was endorsed at the 3rd ASEAN and Japan Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM+J), held in Lao PDR, in 2005. Recognizing the importance of capacity building in carrying out the A-J TLIP, the “Guidelines for ASEAN-Japan Transport Logistics Capacity Building (A-J TLCB)” were endorsed in 2007 at the 5th ATM+J, held in Singapore.

  Based on A-J TLCB, ASEAN Member States (AMSs) and Japan have implemented Policy Dialogue and Workshops. In Policy Dialogue, AMSs and Japan exchange views and information on transport logistics issues at the governmental level, to further their understanding of the status of logistics and identify the challenges to be tackled. In Workshops, AMSs and Japan share information and experience on practical logistics at the governmental and business levels, such as associations concerning logistics and private logistics companies.

  In 2013, Policy Dialogue and Workshops were held in Vientiane, Lao PDR and Manila, the Philippines. In Vientiane, Lao PDR and Japan exchanged information on the Bilateral Cross Border Transport Agreement and shared views on challenges to be resolved to achieve smooth logistics such as maximum loading capacity. In Manila, the Philippines and Japan exchanged information and views on mutual policies on logistics.

- **Support for the Sub-Regional Logistics Training Center Project**

  Japan is supporting efforts to establish a Sub-Regional Logistics Training Center in Viet Nam, utilizing the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) in cooperation with AMSs, under the framework of the Mekong-Japan Partnership.

  The objectives of this project are to train people who are working and/or expecting to work in the logistics field at the operational level, with a view to ensuring the availability of a qualified labor force in the logistics business in CLMV countries, and enhancing the capacity for developing, managing and
operating the logistics network in the region.

The project site is located on the new campus of Viet Nam Maritime University in Haiphong. Construction of the site started in the 4th quarter of 2012. Japan has conducted a training program for Vietnamese staff since the 2nd quarter of 2013.

- ASEAN-Japan Logistics Partnership

To enhance efficiency and innovation in logistics in ASEAN by promoting comprehensively vital and effective projects, the “ASEAN-Japan Logistics Partnership” was endorsed at the 9th ATM+J, held in Cambodia, in 2011.

Each project included in the ASEAN-Japan Logistics Partnership was conducted as follows:

The first project in this partnership, “Cooperation on a Study of the Roll-On/Roll-Off (RO-RO) Network and Short Sea Shipping”, such as lessons learned from other RO-RO experiences, the legal and institutional framework and ASEAN-RO-RO candidate routes, was conducted in close connection with ASEAN project lead coordinator countries (the Philippines and Indonesia) and JICA since 2011, in view of realizing the expansion/opening of RO-RO routes with efficient and reliable services in ASEAN.

Between March and June 2012, the JICA Team conducted a route survey covering 8 routes with 17 ports and a legal and institutional survey covering all 10 ASEAN countries in collaboration with designated contact points.

In July 2012, the First Regional Workshop on this project was held in Manila, the Philippines. The Workshop discussed the interim report provided by JICA and selected 3 priority routes (Dumai-Malacca, Belawan-Penang-Phuket and General Santos-Bitung) for further analysis. The priority routes were regarded as one of the joint efforts in establishing the ASEAN RO-RO shipping network. The Workshop also reached the consensus that ASEAN RO-RO shipping should be developed in line with regional institutional development, such as transport facilitation.

In October 2012, the interim report was presented at the 24th Maritime Transport Working Group Meeting (MTWG), held in Myanmar. The 24th MTWG noted that there is a need to address institutional issues including coordination with Customs, as presented by the JICA Study Team, and that MTWG should follow up the status of these issues.
In December 2012, the Second Workshop was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, and discussed the draft final report provided by JICA. In the end, the final report was adopted at the 25th MTWG in March 2013, and was reported to the 35th STOM, held in May 2013, in Lao PDR.

The second project in this partnership, “Technical Cooperation on the Introduction of Port Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)”, is aimed at improving efficiency and competitiveness in maritime transport by simplifying port-related procedures and harmonizing the filling in of forms.

To meet this objective, the draft Guidelines on the Introduction of Port EDI, providing know-how on simplification of port-related procedures, was discussed at the International Seminar and the Port Technology Group (PTG) Meeting. In 2013, the International Seminar and the PTG Meeting were held in Yangon, Myanmar. The International Seminar gave information on the current status of port-related procedures and EDI in Myanmar, an outline of the Port EDI system in Japan and the IMO/FAL Convention. The PTG Meeting shared the current situations of 4AMSs (Viet Nam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines) and discussed the draft Guidelines.

The third project in this partnership is the “Cooperative Program to Promote Palletisation in ASEAN.” This project is aimed at improving efficiency in handling and managing cargo, and consequently improving logistics performance as well as enhancing competitiveness in the logistics industry in AMSs.

Two Workshops were held in Cambodia and Myanmar in 2012, with a view to sharing and providing experience, significance of and knowledge on palletisation, which led the Myanmar International Freight Forwarders’ Association becoming a member of the Asia Pallet System Federation in 2013. In 2013, two Workshops were held in Lao PDR and the Philippines.

The fourth project in this partnership is the “Promotion of Human Resources Development (HRD) in Collaboration with Educational Institutions”. The objective of this project is to consider how to create an HRD scheme in collaboration with educational institutions for young people who will take part in future logistic operations.
In 2013, Model Studies were conducted in Myanmar and Viet Nam respectively. Myanmar Maritime University and MLIT organized the first study and implemented a Model Study over two days in Yangon, Myanmar, in February 2013. Viet Nam Maritime University and MLIT organized the second study and implemented it in Haiphong, Viet Nam, in March 2013.

- **New Air Navigation System**

  This cooperative project is aimed at facilitating harmonized implementation and operation of the New Air Navigation System. It also contributes to reducing air traffic accidents and CO2 emissions by realizing efficient air traffic control.

  At the 3rd ATM+J, held in Lao PDR, in 2005, the Common Action Plan for the ASEAN-Japan New Air Navigation System was endorsed. At the 4th ATM+J, held in Thailand in 2006, the Recommendation for the ASEAN-Japan New Air Navigation System was endorsed. In 2007, the Civil Aviation Training Forum was held. The 3rd Country Training Program on Human Resources Development for the new CNS/ATM (Communications, Navigation and Surveillance / Air Traffic Management) Systems was conducted in October 2008.

  In May 2012, a seminar on “Air Navigation Services after the Great East Japan Earthquake” was held in Japan, under the JICA scheme. Japan shared knowledge and experience about 1) the response just after the earthquake, 2) the state of recovery in the disaster area, and 3) the reconstruction plan for the future, through lectures in Tokyo and site visits to Sendai airport; an airport heavily destroyed by the tsunami.

  A training program for the Flight Procedure Design (RNAV) was conducted in 2012 and 2013, in Japan, under the JICA scheme.

  Experts on CNS/ATM were dispatched to three cooperative projects in five countries (the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, and Viet Nam).

- **Automobile Technical Cooperation Project on Safety and Environment**

  To enhance the cooperative relationship between AMSs and Japan in the fields of development of technical regulations and establishment of type approval systems for vehicles, the ASEAN-Japan Cooperative Program on the Development of Technical Regulations and Establishment of Type Approval Systems for Vehicles was endorsed at the 8th ATM+J, held in Brunei Darussalam, in 2010. Activities listed in the ANNEX were implemented based on this program.
In April and September 2012, the Workshop on Automotive Regulations and Certification was held in cooperation with ACCSQ-APWG. This Workshop is aimed at giving technical assistance to AMSs in complying with the 1958 and 1998 Agreements, and implementing Vehicle Type Approval (VTA) and Conformity of Production (COP) requirements and obligations under the 1958 Agreement.

In October 2012, the advanced training course on technical regulations and type approval systems was conducted to promote the application of technical regulations on safety and environment as well as to develop international harmonization of vehicle regulations on safety, environment and mutual recognition of type approval.

In November 2012, the JICA Training Course was held in Japan to formulate a roadmap towards the development of vehicle regulations in accordance with international regulations and the establishment of type approval systems as well as a detailed action plan on establishing a legal system and organizations for creating and administering such systems.

With a view to encouraging a better understanding of the United Nations/Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) Vehicle Regulations, three JASIC Asia Expert Meetings were held, and experts on the UN Regulations were dispatched to Malaysia, Viet Nam, and Thailand in 2012.

To prepare the draft implementation framework of new motor vehicle regulations and certification, the Project for Developing Motor Vehicle Regulations and Certification in the Philippines was implemented in 2011-2012.

In December 2012, the Public and Private Forum was held in the Philippines.

The JASIC Jakarta Office was opened in March 2013 to support all AMSs in international harmonization. A new project, “Assistance for Harmonization of Automotive Regulations and Mutual Recognition of Approvals” funded by JAIF, has been launched in the Philippines in cooperation with the JASIC Jakarta Office.

- Urban Public Transport Policy Framework

This cooperative project can improve urban public transport in ASEAN. It is expected to contribute to facilitating passenger transfer. It also contributes to reducing CO2 emissions.

Four case studies have been conducted since 2003, in Chiang Mai, Batam,

The JICA training course on urban public transport policy, “Colloquium on Urban Public Transport”, held in 2012, also contributed to the development of the urban public transport system in ASEAN. Trainees from Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam participated in this training course.

Some trainees from Lao PDR visited and studied the Japanese Bus Rapid Transport System under the JICA scheme in August 2013.

**Future work**

- **ASEAN-Japan Transport Logistics Project**
  In the 4th quarter of 2013 and the 1st quarter of 2014, Policy Dialogue and Workshops will be held in Thailand and Indonesia respectively. The Expert Group Meeting on Logistics will be held in Malaysia in the 1st quarter of 2014. The Meeting will give information on the current status of green logistics for each AMS and introduce Japanese green logistics policy. It will also discuss the future promotion of green logistics in ASEAN.

- **ASEAN-Japan Logistics Partnership**
  ASEAN and Japan will follow the progress of identified priority routes in the final report of the study on Roll-On/ Roll-Off (RO-RO) networks and short sea shipping utilizing MTWG, STOM Leaders Conference, STOM+J and other opportunities. Indonesia and the Philippines are making efforts to promote the harmonization of legal and institutional frameworks with related domestic organizations and agencies.

  The PTG Meeting and the International Seminar will be held in Indonesia in February 2014 to promote “Technical Cooperation on the Introduction of Port Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)”. An introduction to advanced cases of Port EDI will be introduced at this International Seminar. Guidelines will be finalized at this PTG Meeting.

  Workshops and Seminars concerning the “Cooperative Program to Promote Palletisation in ASEAN,” will be held in Thailand and Indonesia respectively, under the ASEAN-Japan Transport Logistics Project scheme.

  Finally, future cooperative schemes concerning “Promotion of HRD in collaboration with Educational Institutions” will be discussed at The Transport Facilitation Working Group Meeting (TFWG). These schemes may include
collaborating on model studies with programs to be provided at the Sub-Regional Logistics Training Center in Viet Nam.

- **New Air Navigation System**
  The Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB) will continue to cooperate with AMSs by various means. The JICA Training Program on Flight Procedure Design (RNAV) produced by JCAB will be conducted in 2014. JCAB and JICA are planning to start a new technical cooperation program for Myanmar to be launched in 2014. The detailed design study for the program will be conducted by JCAB and JICA in 2013.
  In addition, the grant aid project for Lao PDR and Myanmar will start in 2014. A number of air navigation systems and facilities will be provided by Japan by 2016.

- **Automobile Technical Cooperation Project on Safety and Environment**
  Policy Dialogue and Dispatch of Experts will continue. The Public and Private Joint Forum will be held in Thailand in January 2014.

- **Urban Public Transport Policy Framework**
  AMSs (ODA recipients) will be invited to the JICA training course on urban public transport policy, “Colloquium on Urban Public Transport” in the 1st quarter of 2014.

- **Promotion of ASEAN-Japan Road Technology Exchange**
  The seamless transport logistics network in the ASEAN-Japan region is indispensable in attracting more investment and trade, as well as expanding the market. From this point of view, the implementation of the ASEAN Highway Network (AHN) Project is required to ensure physical connectivity in ASEAN. Consequently, it is necessary to develop human resources and to exchange information on road technologies (planning, construction, management, operation/maintenance of roads) in the ASEAN-Japan region. Specifically, JICA training on Motorway Development and Management will be conducted once a year until 2016. In addition, pilot projects on road technologies (ex. ITS, pavements, etc.) will be implemented until 2016.
Preliminary Study of Land Bridge

A preliminary study will be conducted in cooperation between AMSs and Japan to implement the “Land Bridge Study” based on MPAC and BAP. AMSs and Japan will collect and review information on the progress of the transport infrastructure project and business/industry/logistics projects based on the outcome of existing studies on the Land Bridge. AMSs and Japan will also identify freight traffic flow on the existing Land Bridge and other routes by analyzing statistics and conducting interviews with logistics companies to forecast the future. For the efficient and smooth implementation of the study, each AMS is requested to inform Japan of its focal point. Progress of the preliminary study will be reported and discussed at the ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group.