Part I. Issues and Direction for Administration of MLIT at the Beginning of the 21st Century

Chapter 1. The Birth of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

[The birth of MLIT]

The former four ministries and agencies, the Hokkaido Development Agency, the National Land Agency, the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Construction were integrated and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport was newly born on Jan. 6, 2001.

(MLIT’s Legislative Responsibility)

The mission of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport is to utilize, develop and conserve land in Japan in an integrated and systematic way; develop infrastructure necessary for attaining those goals; implement transportation policies; promote the progress of meteorological tasks; and maintain marine safety and security (Article 3 of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Establishment Law).

1. (Opinions concerning MLIT as a whole)

In order to fulfill the mission of MLIT, it is necessary for the whole ministry to develop comprehensive and consistent policy with the same acknowledgement. Thus the task to establish “MLIT’s Mission, Goals and Directions” was started, asking public opinion widely before the integration and published on Jan. 30.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Issue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30.9%</td>
<td>It is necessary to remove bureaucratic sectionalism to show the merit of integration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>Administration using the merits of integration should be promoted</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>Slimming of the organization is needed to exhibit the merits of integration</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>Useful and quick administrative service is expected</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>It is doubtful that four ministries and agencies are truly united, and any change is hardly to be expected</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>However large an organization may be, services are required to be given even in peripheral areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>Hopefully, a nation that can be proud of in the world is to be built.</td>
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<td>3.1%</td>
<td>Reconsideration of the system, including deregulation and simplification of licensing services, is necessary.</td>
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<td>0.8%</td>
<td>Public works should be carried out not being misled by mass media</td>
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<td>4.3%</td>
<td>The rest</td>
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2. (The Minister of MLIT, Ms Ohgi hangs a signboard of the Ministry)
3. (Mission, Goals and Directions)

MLIT’s Mission Statement

To create a strong foundation through policies designed to support comfortable communities, vibrant socioeconomy, everyday security, a beautiful environment, and regional diversity.

The 5 Goals of MLIT’s Administration

Supporting Joyful Life
- Enhancing Global Competitiveness
- Enhancing Regional Diversity
- MLIT’s Legislative Responsibility

Roles for the Private Sector
- Public-private partnerships; supporting the market environment; stimulating market development and activity

Roles for Local Governments
- Promoting decentralization; addressing wide area issues; fundamental problems; and leading issues

27 Reforms to the Administration of Duties and their Integration

MLIT and other national agencies are committed to reducing government size and structure, streamlining processes, and focusing on the common good. This involves promoting integrated measures that leverage the strengths of all agencies involved.

3 Perspectives

Integration promoting an integrated approach
Emphasis on Public Needs-Understanding and putting public’s diverse needs first
Focus on Quality-Attaching importance to quality and intangible aspects of public administration

5 Directions

Efficient and Effective Administration
- Well-targeted, strategic application of administrative resources; continuous improvement; and reduction, simplification and acceleration of administrative services

Enhancing the Awareness and Ability of Officials
- Everyone striving toward a common goal, enhancing overall and specialized abilities, encouraging creativity and initiative

[Result of integration]

MLIT endeavors to develop more effective policy by bringing together and integrating the experience and achievements accumulated in the former four ministries and agencies.

○ Establishing “Grand Design of Land, Infrastructure and Transport for the 21st century (draft)”

“Grand Design of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, for the 21st century (draft),” comprising the future vision of land, infrastructure and transport and visual maps, originated from discussions in the Regional Meetings held in ten blocks nationwide, was created and published in June 2001.

This has been drawn from the viewpoints of: (1) showing a creative and vigorous image of the country in the 21st century utilizing the merit of integration of the former four ministries and agencies; and (2) starting nationwide discussion in order to work at constantly reforming public works, with the goal of planning and implementing more transparent, concentrated and efficient projects that MLIT is in charge of.

○ Promoting integrated/coalition measures

By removing bureaucratic sectionalism in the four former ministries and agencies and by exhibiting comprehensiveness, including coalition/adjustment with other government organizations, integrated/coalition measures have been promoted in order to develop high-quality measures usefully and quickly.
4. (Examples of integrated/coalition measures)