Section 3. Reform of Administrative Methods Addressing New Trends

Based on new trends, the entire MLIT, besides addressing the restructuring of the relationship between central and regional governments, promoting cooperation with citizen's organizations, such as NPOs, and promoting free access to ministerial information, has been carrying out review and reform of methods such as the following:

[Introduction of a comprehensive system of policy evaluation aiming at managerial reform]

In order to establish a policy management cycle of plan, implementation, evaluation and improvement, MLIT introduced a new system of policy evaluation, comprising of three methods; policy assessment, performance measurement and program evaluation. The ministry has established the "MLIT Policy Evaluation Guidelines" on January 30. 2001 and "Policy Evaluation Program for FY2001"in May 2001.

Subsequently in August 2001, policy assessment was done for 38 new programs relating to the FY2002 budget request, and 27 policy objectives as well as 112 performance measures (Including the targets within 5 years) were determined and released.

48. (Developing performance management strategy (policy management cycle) in MLIT)





Examples of Performance Indicators

- Outcome Indicators:
 - \diamond Congestion rate of commuter railways in the Tokyo metropolitan area.
 - ♦ Morning and evening automobile speeds in the three largest metropolitan areas (Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka).
- Customer satisfaction indicators:
 - \diamond People's is satisfaction with housing.
 - Indicators that encourage performance improvement efforts by employees:
 - \diamond Accuracy of tropical cyclone track forecasts.

Examples of Performance Targets

- Needs Indicators:
 - Percentage of ATS-equipped railways in rural railway companies. (ATS: Automatic Train Stop device) 2000 actual: 92.6%' 2006 goal: 100%
- Indicators benchmarking "best practices":
 - Recognition rate of the Hazard Maps for flooding 2000 actual: 4%' 2006 goal: 70%
- Indicators declaring ambitious goals:
 - Recycling rate of construction materials in the MLIT's public works projects.
 1995 actual: 47%' 2005 goal: 100%

(Demonstration of initiative towards global issues)

Global issues have been occurring in various areas accompanying the development of globalization and are in the course of reaching a state in which sufficient measures cannot always be carried out in the present framework. For example, in the MLIT's policy scope, even though policy adjustments have been made through IMO (International Maritime Organization), ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization), etc, there are increasing calls for debate in all the countries concerned country regarding land, infrastructure and transportation in particular.

For this reason, Japan needs to demonstrate initiative aggressively and carry out countermeasures regarding the structuring of a new international forum for policy formation around the administration of land, infrastructure and transport.

[Review of what National Land Planning should be]

On November 2001, the Basic Policy Section of the National Land Council released an interim report which describes a new role, "for National Land Planning as a comprehensive land management guideline for good land in heritance" In the future, based on examination by the council, MLIT will aim to establish a national land planning system that can respond to the new demands of the 21st century.

[Special public-corporation reform, etc.]

On December 18, 2001 the Special Public Institutions Reform Promotion Headquarters settled on "Reorganization/Rationalization Plan for the Public Corporations", which was also determined by the Cabinet Meeting on the 19th. The Plan aimed at the 163 public corporations and certified corporations, defining individually the revision of function and organization structure. From now on, active measures towards its concretization will be devised and efforts will be made to move reforms forward. (Refer to original text for an outline of the reorganization/rationalization plan for 28 public corporations, etc. related to the MLIT)