

## **Chapter 9: International Partnership and Contribution for the Nation's Sustainable Development**

### **[Developing international partnership and coordination mechanism under the initiative of Japan]**

MLIT is working to bolster partnership in ASEAN and East Asia as a whole in such sectors as transport, construction, and marine environment management. The ministry is developing a policy network involving transport ministers in world major countries and a network of ministers in charge of infrastructure development in the Asia-Pacific region.

Moreover, MLIT is taking steps to ensure that overseas construction markets are free and fair and find solutions to the water problems in the world.

### **[Efforts concerning international standards]**

MLIT is addressing a number of issues concerning international standards. Among them are: harmonization of vehicle regulations and mutual recognition of certification; international standardization of railway specifications; promoting of formulation of international standardization concerning vessels and seafarers; international harmonization of civil engineering and construction standards and certification system; international standardization of ITS and geographical information; and mutual recognition of qualifications for engineers among nations. In addition, the ministry is doing all it can to address the issue over the internationally recognized name of the Sea of Japan.

### **[International cooperation that takes advantage of Japan's experience, technology and expertise]**

MLIT is pursuing strategic international cooperation in transport and infrastructure development. The ministry is focusing such sectors as the development of broad-based socioeconomic infrastructure, disaster preparedness, the environment and security. Specifically, JCG is supporting Southeast Asian countries in establishing maritime law enforcement agencies.

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#### **<Experts from JCG providing technical guidance in air rescue in Philippines>**

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#### **<Second Mandaue-Mactan Bridge, Philippines>**

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### **[Multilateral and bilateral talks]**

MLIT has been participating in multilateral talks and forums, including the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The ministry is also involved in multilateral talks in such sectors as roads, ports, and maritime affairs and in bilateral negotiations regarding Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs).