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Japan Aids to Navigation Association

**Initiation of the “Development of VTS Capacity” Project**

The Project is to establish the ASEAN Regional Training Center for VTS operators - the first regional training center to be established in its kind, and to conduct VTS operator training to the trainees from ASEAN Member States in accordance with the international standard for the purpose of securing safe navigation of ships.

\*Note: VTS is an abbreviation of Vessel Traffic Service

1. Objective

As recent economic growth in the ASEAN region are noteworthy and developments of infrastructure such as ports etc., which will be functioning as the strategic central bases for goods' distribution in the region, are being rapidly progressing, marine trade in the region seems to be getting more active than before.. However, some ASEAN member states are at present still striving for the high risks of marine accident as the safety measures for ships navigation have not yet been established to the level. .

On the other hand, the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) defines VTA as one of marine aids to navigation services contributing to safety of marine traffic. In recent world-wide trend, many countries intend to introduce VTS and some ASEAN States have requested the technical cooperation to be extended from Japan either on establishment of VTS facilities or on VTS operators' training to build up their operation capabilities.

It is regulated by IMO that VTS operators should be in possession of the internationally recognized certification. Certain states have already established such a training system, but as for ASEAN as the whole, it has not been established to the certain level as far as the training scale is concerned. In view of this and in order to improve the situation, the Project leadingly to establish the ASEAN Regional Training Center was proposed and adopted. This ASEAN Regional Training Center will be utilized for implementation of the training of VTS personnel for the VTS training instructors in accordance with the

international standards, which consequently contributes to safe navigation of ships in waters of ASEAN region

This Project was proposed by the Marine Department Malaysia as a framework of cooperative activities in the field of transport segment, namely “Cooperation in the field of safety at sea (Development of VTS Operator’s Capacity)”. The Project is to be funded by the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) that Japanese government had provided to the ASEAN Secretariat.

## 2. Brief Project Description

The ASEAN Regional Training Center will be located at the already-existing Maritime Transport Institute of Malaysia (MATRAIN, Port Klang, Selangor.) and in preparation for establishment of it, the followings will eventually be worked out. Accreditation procedure necessary for the ASEAN Regional Training Center to become the training body will also be processed in accordance with IALA Guideline. Those who have been trained at the Center and successfully completed the training will receive the VTS operator course certificates.

- Procurement of equipment necessary for the training such as a VTS simulator
- Preparation of the training materials such as text book
- Implementation of the training to train for VTS training instructors

## 3. Implementation Arrangement

For implementing the Project, implementation bodies will be set up as bellows.

### (1) Implementation Body A (Japan Aids to Navigation Association)

Overall coordination and management of the Project, management of Fund, procurement of equipment and development of training materials

### (2) Implementation Body B (Expert Group on ASEAN Regional Training Center for VTS Operators)

Development of training policy and overall plan, selection of instructors and trainees, and liaise with IALA

### (3) Implementation Body C (Maritime Training Institute of Malaysia)

Implementation of training in cooperation with Implementation Body A, operation and maintenance of the provided equipment

#### 4. Budget

Necessary budget to be funded by JAIF is approximately 4,000,000 U\$ which includes costs of equipment procurement, implementation of training and cost for holding meetings of the Expert Group and other costs.

#### 5. Schedule

- To complete the work of procurement of the VTS Simulator, etc., by December, 2016
- To commence preparation of the training materials, such as a text book from February, 2017
- To hold the Expert Group meeting once in a year in 2016 and 2017 to be attended by members of the Expert Group on ASEAN Regional Training Center for VTS Operators
- To hold the Opening Ceremony of the ASEAN Regional Training Center for VTS Operators in July, 2017
- To implement the training for three months starting from July, 2017 to September

#### 6. Provision of information related to the Project

Further information related to the Project will be published on JANA's home page. (<http://www.jana.or.jp>)



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