

# Communications News

Newsletter of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications(MIC), Japan

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## The first G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting

### Attendance of Ms. Megumi Kaneko, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications at the Meeting

Ms. Megumi Kaneko, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications attended the first G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting, which was held in Dusseldorf, Germany, on April 6 and 7, 2017. Discussions on shaping digitalization for an interconnected world made progress in the Meeting, and a Ministerial Declaration was agreed on. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kaneko had bilateral talks with the European Commission and the UK as well as Germany as the holder of the G20 Presidency. The details of these meetings are described in 1 and 2 below.

#### 1. G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting

The first G20 Summit Meeting (for the governments from 20 major economies) was held in November 2008. Then-US President George W. Bush organized the Meeting on global finance and the economy in Washington, D.C., at the request of European members following the turmoil of the world economy that originated from the Lehman bankruptcy in September of the same year. Since then, the Meeting has been held by the Presidency for the year, by turns every year. The 2016 Meeting was held in Hangzhou, China.

Like G7, G20 holds ministerial meetings in various fields, such as finance, trade and agriculture, once or twice a year, in parallel with the Summit Meeting. Japan held the G7 ICT Ministers' Meeting in Takamatsu, Kagawa, in April 2016. This was the G7's first ministerial meeting on information and telecommunications in 21 years. Referring to the G7 ICT Ministers' Meeting in Takamatsu, Kagawa, Germany as the holder of the G20 Presidency, held the G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting in Dusseldorf, Germany, on April 6 and 7, 2017 in order to confirm that digitization in economy and society is indispensable to the formation of an interconnected world, and aim for the pursuit of sustainable economic growth, all citizens' happiness, and inclusion in the world's economy.

# The first G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting

**Attendance of Ms. Megumi Kaneko, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications at the Meeting**

## 1) Summary of Ministers' Meeting

At the Ministers' Meeting, Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kaneko stated that the promotion of the free flow of information would bring about not only economic growth but also an increase in people's welfare and social transformation and serve as the basis for the development of the world. She added that it would be important to bridge the digital divide in order to maximize the benefits of digitalization, for which it would be indispensable to develop digital infrastructure and to improve digital skills and that Japan would contribute to the bridging of the world's digital divide through the development of quality infrastructure. As a result of the Meeting, the Ministerial Declaration (G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration) elaborated on matters about which G20 countries should cooperate and utilize all opportunities brought about by digitization.

## (2) Overview of Ministerial Declaration

The importance of the following points was confirmed in the Ministerial Declaration.

### i. Global digitalization - Harnessing the potential for inclusive growth and employment

G20 countries reaffirmed the goal of connecting the next 1.5 billion people to the Internet by 2020 with the aim of bridging the world's digital divides for the inclusive growth of the world. G20 countries welcome policy and regulation that promote a competitive environment in order to encourage private sector investment. Furthermore, they welcome new innovative digital business models and the spread of new communications technologies to boost the growth of the world.

### ii. Digitizing production for growth

Through the exchange of expertise and best practices, G20 countries encourage digital transformation in production, and support the development of standards based on principles of openness, transparency, and consensus.

### iii. Encourage reliability - Strengthening trust in the digital world

G20 countries support the free flow of information while respecting privacy and data protection, and strengthening security in the use of ICT as well as transparency and consumer protection.

The Ministerial Declaration reflects the basic concepts of the promotion of the free flow of information and the improvements in access to ICT as agreed at the G7 ICT Ministers' Meeting in Takamatsu, Kagawa, in April 2016. It can be said that the outcome of this G7 Meeting has been widely spreading to other countries beyond G7.



photo:G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting

# The first G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting

## Attendance of Ms. Megumi Kaneko, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications at the Meeting

### 2. Bilateral Talks between Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kaneko and Her European Counterparts

#### (1) Germany

She held a bilateral talk with H.E. Mr. Matthias Machnig, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, and exchanged views on the significance of the G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting held with consideration of the results of the G7 ICT Ministers' Meeting in Takamatsu, Kagawa, as well as on other matters, including the bilateral collaborations in the frameworks of G7 and G20 countries and a follow-up to the Hanover Declaration of CeBIT 2017.

#### (2) European Commission

She held a bilateral talk with H.E. Mr. Andrus Ansip, European Commission Vice-President for the Digital Single Market, and exchanged views on data flow between Japan and the EU and other matters.

#### (3) United Kingdom

She held a bilateral talk with H.E. Mr. Matt Hancock, Minister of State for Digital and Culture, and exchanged views on the impact of the UK's withdrawal from the EU and other matters.



Photo : Bilateral talk with H.E. Mr. Matthias Machnig , State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

### Signing Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of ICT between Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications in Japan and Department of Information and Communications Technology in the Philippines

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) and Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) confirmed that they would further promote cooperation between both countries in the field of ICT and concluded a Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of ICT on March 31, 2017.

The memorandum will facilitate cooperation on a wide range of ICT areas including digital terrestrial television broadcasting, broadband infrastructure, disaster management and cybersecurity.

#### 1. Signing Memorandum

Sanae Takaichi, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, and Rodolfo A. Salalima, Secretary for Information and Communications Technology of the Government of the Philippines, who was invited to Japan by MIC, signed a memorandum of cooperation in the field of ICT on March 31, 2017. (Please refer to the following reference for the outline of the memorandum.)

It is expected that the Memorandum of Cooperation will further promote cooperation of both countries in the entire ICT field, thus leading to an overseas expansion of Japanese companies.

#### 2. Talks

Prior to the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation, Jiro Akama, State Minister for Information and Communications, held talks with Secretary Salalima on March 30, 2017. They confirmed that MIC and DICT would further promote cooperation between both countries in the smooth transition to digital terrestrial broadcasting, the improvement of a broadband network infrastructure, and the utilization of ICT systems for disaster management in the Republic of the Philippines.



Photo : Minister Takaichi's signing of MOC in the ICT field.

### Signing Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of ICT between Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications in Japan and Department of Information and Communications Technology in the Philippines

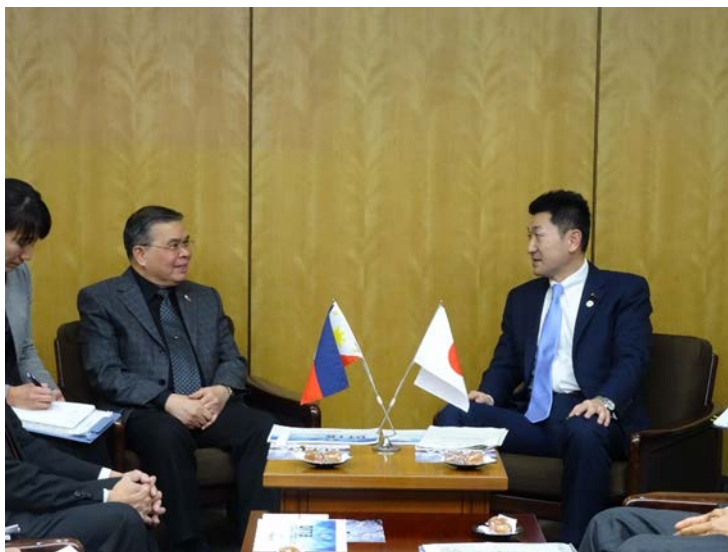


Photo : State Minister Akama talked with Secretary Salalima, Secretary for Information and Communications Technology of the Government of the Philippines

#### (Reference) Outline of Memorandum of Cooperation

1. Strengthening cooperation for the smooth transition to Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting in the Philippines such as support from experts of ISDB-T including Emergency Warning Broadcasting System (EWBS);
2. Promoting cooperation for improvement of broadband infrastructure in the Philippines, facilitating the promotion of access to ICT such as bridging digital divides;
3. Promoting cooperation for enhancing the capability of disaster management in the Philippines utilizing ICT systems for disaster management;
4. Capacity building in the field of cybersecurity to protect information systems and networks;
5. Reinforcement of cooperation in the ICT fields such as the following:
  - Radio wave systems including spectrum monitoring;
  - International Mobile Telecommunications System (IMT-2020, 5G);
  - Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI);
  - Next generation networks including Software Defined Networking (SDN);
  - Intelligent Transport System (ITS);
  - Cultural relationships through broadcasting content



# Results of Talks with Sanae Takaichi, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, and H.E. Mr. Truong Minh Tuan, Minister of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam



Photo : talking with H.E. Mr. Truong Minh Tuan, Minister of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Sanae Takaichi, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, held talks with H.E. Mr. Truong Minh Tuan, Minister of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, who visited Japan on March 29, 2017. They agreed to establish a Joint Working Group and further promote cooperation between the two countries in the ICT and postal fields.

## 1. Ministerial Talks

Minister Takaichi and Minister Tuan agreed to establish a joint working group and further promote cooperation between the two countries in the ICT (including broadcast contents, radio wave supervision, etc.) and postal fields.

## 2. Signing of “Joint Minutes between Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan and Ministry of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on Establishment of Joint Working Group for Promoting Cooperation”

Minister Takaichi and Minister Tuan signed “Joint Minutes between Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan and Ministry of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on Establishment of Joint Working Group for Promoting Cooperation” for the further development of the cooperative relationship and a discussion on cooperation between both Ministries.

# Results of Talks with Sanae Takaichi, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, and H.E. Mr. Truong Minh Tuan, Minister of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

3. Witnessing of the Signing of Agreements of Japanese Companies and Vietnam Post  
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and Hitachi Ltd. jointly signed an Agreement in Principle to Support Digitalization of Financial Services with Vietnam Post under the presence of Minister Takaichi and Minister Tuan. Furthermore, Hitachi Asia (Vietnam) Co., Ltd. and Vietnam Post signed a Master Service Agreement on the provision of services to realize the digitalization of financial services under the presence of the Ministers as well.



Photo : signing of Joint Minutes on Establishment of Joint Working Group for Promoting Corporations