

# Communications News

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

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## TOPIC

# Signing MOU with Ecuador on Cooperation in Fields of Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting and ICT

## 1. Background of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

(1) H.E. Mr. Guillermo Leon, Minister of Telecommunications and Information Society of the Republic of Ecuador, visited Japan this March and held talks with Seiko Noda, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, and they agreed to cooperate towards a smooth transition to digital terrestrial broadcasting and further strengthen Japan's cooperation in the ICT field.

(2) Since then, the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Society and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) have been deliberating at a practical level to achieve the content for cooperation.

(3) Recently, both countries have confirmed the further promotion of their cooperation and collaboration in the fields of digital terrestrial broadcasting and ICT. When H.E. Mr. Lenín Boltaire Moreno Garcés, President of the Republic of Ecuador, visited Japan, Seiko Noda, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, and H.E. Mr. José Samuel Valencia Amores, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility, took the opportunity and signed an MOU on cooperation in the presence of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and President Moreno.

## 2. Outline of MOU

### (1) Efforts aimed at a smooth transition to digital terrestrial broadcasting

Study on the use of the Emergency Warning Broadcasting System (EWBS), implementation of technical support and training through experts and government officials, and exchange of information on the transition of terrestrial digital broadcasting.

### (2) Efforts to achieve digitization in prioritized fields of Ecuador

Consideration of strategies or models to achieve digitization in prioritized fields, including the fields of tourism, agriculture, medical care, education, transportation, and disaster prevention.

### (3) Efforts to provide ICT in rural, urban, and remote island areas

Cooperation with Ecuador's efforts to improve digital networks (including optical fiber submarine cable) in rural, urban, and remote island areas.

### (4) Establishment of joint working group

Confirmation of the establishment of a joint working group to promote Japan's concrete cooperation in the fields of digital terrestrial broadcasting and ICT.

## 3. Future Plan

MIC will continue strengthening Japan's ties with Ecuador in the fields of digital terrestrial broadcasting and ICT based on the MOU.

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