

# Communications News

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

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## TOPIC 1

### Results of the Visit of Seiko Noda, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, to the Philippines

Seiko Noda, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, visited the Philippines from January 9 through 11, 2018. In this visit, Minister Noda had a courtesy call on H.E. President Rodrigo Duterte and confirmed the cooperation between both countries by proposing Japan-Philippines ICT Comprehensive Cooperation Package to offer further support for the development of ICT infrastructure in the Philippines. Furthermore, she emphasized Japan’s past contribution and further cooperation at a ceremony hosted by the People’s Television Network, Inc. (PTV) for the switch-on of digital terrestrial broadcasting. In addition, she had bilateral meetings with Secretary Martin Andanar of the Presidential Communications Operations Office, OIC-Secretary Eliseo Rio Jr. of the Department of Information and Communications Technology, and Commissioner Gamaliel A. Cordoba of the National Telecommunications Commission separately, and agreed to further strengthen the cooperation between the both countries in the future.



Photo: Minister for MIC Seiko Noda and H.E President Duterte after talks.

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# Results of the Visit of Seiko Noda, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, to the Philippines

### 1. Courtesy call on President Duterte

Minister Noda had a courtesy call on H.E. President Duterte at Malacañang Palace. During the courtesy call, she made a commitment to contribute to solving the socio-economic problems and economic growth of the Philippines, thus facilitating the overseas deployment of Japanese enterprises by proposing Japan-Philippines ICT Comprehensive Cooperation Package to offer further support for the development of ICT infrastructure for broadband networks and digital terrestrial broadcasting as the foundation of ICT utilization for disaster management, transportation, and cybersecurity etc.

With the proposal of the package, they agreed to steadily implement the cooperation between both countries in The National Broadband Plan and digital TV migration as specified in the Japan-Philippines Joint Statement on Bilateral Cooperation for the Next Five Years, which was agreed on by the two leaders in October 2017.

### 2. Attendance at PTV's Ceremony for the Switch-on of Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting

Full digital terrestrial broadcasting has started in Metro Manila and surrounding areas in January 2018 by a digital transmitter that a Japanese company delivered. Minister Noda and Ambassador of Japan to the Philippines Koji Haneda, as well as other stakeholders from Japan, attended the ceremony for the switch-on of the digital terrestrial broadcasting along with Secretary Andanar of the Presidential Communications Operations Office, and OIC-Secretary Rio Jr. of the Department of Information and Communications Technology, as well as General Manager Dino Apolonio of PTV's Network, and other stakeholders from the Philippines. At the ceremony, Minister Noda emphasized Japan's past contribution to the switch-on of digital terrestrial broadcasting and further cooperation with the Philippines.



Photo: Minister Noda switching on of PTV's Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcast (DTTB) in the Philippines.

### 3. Bilateral meetings with Philippine Government Officials

Minister Noda had bilateral meetings with Secretary Martin Andanar of the Presidential Communications Operations Office, OIC-Secretary Eliseo Rio Jr. of the Department of Information and Communications Technology, and Commissioner Gamaliel A. Cordoba of the National Telecommunications Commission separately, and agreed to further strengthen the cooperation between both countries in the future. Furthermore, they agreed to cooperate widely on the utilization of ICT for disaster management and cybersecurity as well as the development of ICT infrastructure.

# Results of the Visit of Manabu Sakai, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications to Peru and Colombia.

Manabu Sakai, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, visited Peru from January 8 through 10, 2018, and Colombia from January 10 through 12, 2018, respectively. In this visit, State Minister Sakai held talks with a number of Peruvian key government officials, including H.E. Mr. Bruno Giuffra, Minister of Transport and Communications, and Colombian key government officials, including H.E. Mr. Juan Sebastian Rozo Rengifo, Vice-Minister of Information Technology and Communications, and H.E. Mr. Samuel Zambrano, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development. State Minister Sakai agreed with them to collaborate and cooperate comprehensively in the ICT field so as to contribute to the resolution of social issues in both countries by utilizing information and communications technology (ICT).

## 1. Outline of State Minister's Visit to Peru

### (1) Talks with H.E. Mr. Bruno Giuffra, Minister of Transport and Communications

State Minister Sakai and Minister Giuffra reached an agreement on cooperation towards the practical application of disaster prevention, telemedicine, education, international trade, and traffic logistics systems utilizing Japan's ICT, in order to widely promote Japan's cooperation in the ICT field, including digital terrestrial broadcasting.

Furthermore, they agreed to hold a seminar on Tackling for Social issues through utilizing ICT in Lima, Peru, in March 2018, so as to expand Japanese companies' activities in Peru.



Photo: Talking with H.E. Minister Bruno Giuffra of Transport and Communications in Peru.

## Results of the Visit of Manabu Sakai, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications to Peru and Colombia

### (2) Exchange of views with the National Institute of Civil Defense

State Minister Sakai visited the National Emergency Operation Center (COEN) of the Nacional Institute of Civil Defense and exchanged views with Mr. Luis Alberto Carranza, General Secretary of National Institute of Civil Defense, on cooperation in disaster prevention capabilities utilizing Japan's ICT. Furthermore, as a part of Japan-Peru cooperation, they agreed on Japan's proactive cooperation in the spread of the Emergency Warning Broadcast System (EWBS) by utilizing digital terrestrial broadcasting in Latin America, to which Peru has been making advanced efforts.

### (3) Local firm inspection tour

State Minister Sakai visited a local firm as a demonstration site of a project on international trade efficiency improvements utilizing Japan's ICT, and confirmed the progress and introduction effect of the project.

### (4) Exchange with Peruvian Japanese communities

State Minister Sakai visited the Japanese Peruvian Association, and promoted exchanges through friendly talks with Peruvian citizens of Japanese descent.

## 2. Outline of State Minister's Visit to Colombia

### (1) Talks with H.E. Mr. Juan Sebastian Rozo Rengifo, Vice-minister of Information Technology and Communications

In order to contribute to accuracy and efficiency improvements in security measures towards the achievement of smart cities in the fields of security and transportation, State Minister Sakai and H.E. Vice-minister Rozo reached an agreement on the implementation of research for the introduction of image analysis technology under the collaboration and cooperation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIC) of Japan and the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications (MinTIC) and the National Department of Planning (NPD).

Furthermore, in order to contribute to the stabilization of farmers' livelihood and a solution of food issues, they agreed to promote the cooperation of MinTIC and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) of Colombia in advancing an agricultural IoT project proposed by Japan. In addition, in order to expand Japanese enterprises' activities in Colombia and other Latin American countries, State Minister Sakai announced that Japan will participate as a special guest country in ANDICOM 2018, Colombia's largest ICT international conference and exhibition event that will be held in August 2018.



Photo: State Minister for MIC Manabu Sakai and H.E. Mr. Juan Sebastian Rozo Rengifo, Vice-minister of the Ministry of Information and Communications Technologies after talks.

## Results of the Visit of Manabu Sakai, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications to Peru and Colombia

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### (2) Talks with Colombian key government officials

State Minister Sakai held talks with H.E. Deputy Minister Samuel Zambrano of MARD and agreed to cooperate in the agricultural IoT project proposed by Japan. Furthermore, State Minister Sakai held talks with H.E. Director Luis Fernando Mejia of NPD, and agreed on the cooperation of Japan and Colombia in the achievement of smart cities and the promotion of the agricultural IoT project.

### (3) On-site inspection tour

State Minister Sakai visited the Cali laboratory of the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), which has been conducting research on agriculture utilizing ICT, and an optical fiber manufacturing factory of a Japanese enterprise, and deepened his understanding of how to Japan's technologies are used in Colombia.

### (4) Exchange with Colombian Japanese communities

State Minister Sakai visited the Colombian-Japanese Association, and promoted exchanges through friendly talks with Colombian citizens of Japanese descent.



## Results of the Visit of Fumiaki Kobayashi, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications to the U.S.

Fumiaki Kobayashi, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, visited the United States from January 4 through 11, 2018, held talks with a number of U.S. key government officials, including H.E. Mr. Ajit Pai, the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and exchanged views on the ICT policies and the promotion of the e-Government, etc. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kobayashi signed the Letter of Intent for strengthening the U.S.-Japan cooperation on the ICT field. Furthermore, he visited various sites for understanding the cutting-edge ICT and related business trends in the United States.

1. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kobayashi held talks with Mr. Ajit Pai, the Chairman of the FCC and exchanged views on the ICT policies of Japan and the United States. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kobayashi signed the Letter of Intent between the FCC and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) for strengthening the U.S.-Japan cooperation on the ICT field including broadband policies, frequency policies (e.g. 5G), broadcasting policies and cooperation toward shared objectives at multilateral meetings.

2. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kobayashi held talks with H.E. Mr. David John Redl, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, Department of Commerce and Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), and exchanged views on public frequency policies, public safety network (PS-LTE) and IoT security, etc.



Photo: Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kobayashi shaking hands with Mr. Ajit Pai, the Chairman of the FCC after their signing the MOC.

3. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kobayashi held talks with H.E. Ms. Margaret H. Graves, Acting Federal Chief Information Officer (CIO), Office of the Management and Budget (OMB), H.E. Ms. Emily W. Murphy, Administrator, General Services Administration (GSA) and H.E. Mr. Alan B. Thomas, Jr., Commissioner, Federal Acquisition Service, GSA, and exchanged views on the promotion of e-Government and the government procurement of information systems, etc.

4. Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kobayashi had an inspection tour to see ICT and related business trends in Silicon Valley, exchanged views with the managing directors of the companies or venture capitals, and visited CES 2018, the world's biggest ICT exhibition.