

July, 3, 2008
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Facts Sheet
(Megaports Initiative)

1. What's Megaports Initiative?

The Megaports Initiative is a measure which the U.S. Department of Energy has mainly been promoting and aims to enhance the ability of inspection of containers at the ports by installing radioactive materials detection equipment in the major ports in the world.

The Government of the United States has already agreed with 27 countries and regions on conducting the Megaports Initiative. Among those countries and regions, Netherlands, Greece, Bahamas, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Spain, Philippines, Belgium, and Israel have already been conducting the Megaports Initiative. (as of May, 2008)



Containers carried by trucks are inspected if they contain radioactive materials when passing between the white gates shown with ○.

Image of radioactive materials detection equipment

2. Japan's action

The Government of Japan has been discussing with the Government of the United States and other stakeholders the launch of the Megaports Initiative pilot project at the Minami Honmoku Terminal of the Port of Yokohama in FY2008, given the fact that the Government of Japan considers non-proliferation and the enhancing counterterrorism measures as important foreign-policy.