

## Japan's Cooperation for the Recovery from the Flooding Disaster in Thailand

December 23, 2011

Thailand provided significant support to Japan on the occasion of the Great East Japan Earthquake. In order to return the favor to Thailand and further strengthen relations between both countries, Japan has dispatched various study team, sent expert teams including a drain pump vehicle team, gathered information on the disaster afflicted areas using an observation radar, provided emergency relief goods and emergency grant aid, and offered support under the ASEAN+3 Emergency Rice Reserve System, etc. Moreover, many citizens, companies and NGOs in the private sector have provided support to Thailand.

Based on the Japan-Thailand Summit Meeting on November 18, Japan will continue to provide and consider following cooperation, which will contribute to the reconstruction of Thailand, in the future. But the cooperation from Japan will not be limited to those listed below:

### 1. Cooperation in Flood Control Measures

A new master plan for flood control measures in the Chao Phraya River basin will be developed. A JICA's study team will be dispatched from December this year to mid-2013.

### 2. Cooperation in Measures against Infectious Diseases

Japan dispatched experts to support the rapid assessment implemented by the Royal Thai Government to prepare for the potential outbreak of infectious diseases after the flooding. And they are in operation.

### 3. Recovery and Reconstruction of Infrastructure

JICA's study, mentioned in the above 1, will include a study into the emergency recovery and flood control measures of the infrastructure. Based on result of the study, Japan will implement a pilot recovery project before the completion of the whole study.

Based on the needs of Thailand, Japan is also prepared to consider providing yen loans for the development of infrastructure based on the results of the study.

### 4. Measures for Thailand's Economic and Industrial Reconstruction

#### 4-1 Facilitation of Financial Cooperation

In order to facilitate fund raising by Japanese companies operating in Thailand, in addition to the Bank of Thailand providing a supply of Thai Baht backed by Japanese government bonds, financing, guarantee and insurance will be provided through the Japan Finance Corporation (JFC) and other institutions. Moreover, the provision of two-step loans by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) via local financial institutions to Japanese companies' affiliates and business partners in Thailand will be considered.

#### 4-2 Reconstruction of the Production System

With maintenance of supply chain and early restoration in mind, the Government of Japan decided to accept Thai employees working in Japanese companies which have been unable to operate due to flood, and allow them to work in Japan under certain conditions as an emergency temporary measure.

#### 4-3 Human Resource Development for Company Reconstruction, Recovery and Upgrading

Japan will support development of local engineers for the resumption of plant operations (acceptance of trainees/dispatch of experts).

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