FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 5th, 2017

Contribution for ‘Maritime Country”
~ Handover of Vessel Traffic System
from Ambassador of Japan to Minister of Transportation~

On June 5, 2017, Masafumi Ishii, the Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Indonesia handed over Vessel Traffic System at Dumai for Malacca and Singapore Straits to the Minister of Transportation of the Republic of Indonesia, Budi Karya Sumadi. The Vessel Traffic System (VTS) that contributes to maritime safety was completed with grant aid (1,430 million JPY) through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from Japanese Government. VTS at Dumai is following the first VTS at Batam which also granted by the Government of Japan.

Republic of Indonesia has a vast sea area and put high priority on ‘Maritime Country’. Among the vast sea area, Malacca and Singapore Straits is one of the most important straits since more than 90,000 ships passes through including those are from/to Japan. On the other hand, since the straits are very narrow with shallow seabed, this is the place to have high risk of maritime accident. With VTSs granted by Japan, the Government of Indonesia secure maritime safety, contributing to ‘Maritime Country’.

VTS is a system combining navigation and communication systems into one system. VTS effectively improves safety of navigation for vessels navigating in Malacca and Singapore Straits also aids in the enforcement of regulation and the protection of marine environment. The VTS is capable of performing traffic monitoring automatically, giving warning, and broadcasting services. (For further detail, please see the bottom.)

In addition to granting VTS facilities, JICA also have been providing technical assistance for VTS operation since year of 2012. The objective of these technical assistancees is to provide operation knowledge and techniques for VTS operators by conducting a series of training. Since it is essential not only to establish facilities but also to make adequate operation of facilities, JICA makes support on both aspects. As one of the result of this technical assistance, currently, 20 staffs of VTS operation were accredited as Certified Professional VTS Operators in accordance of International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) standard, who are engaged in VTS operation at Dumai and Batam.

“With this grant aid as the start, we hope that Indonesia and Japan could deepen our cooperative relationship even further in terms of securing safety in other fields such as aviation and railways, to contribute to economic development in Indonesia.” said Masafumi Ishii, the Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Indonesia.
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Japan Ambassador for Republic of Indonesia, Masafumi Ishii, handing over the Handover document to the Minister of Transportation, Budi Karya Sumadi.

VTS operators are conducting training.

Training participants taken picture together with experts from Japan.
WHAT IS THE VTS SYSTEM?

A vessel traffic service (VTS) is a marine traffic monitoring system similar to air traffic control for aircraft. The VTS systems established under this Project use mainly radar system, automatic identification system (AIS) and VHF marine radio system to keep track of vessel movements and provide navigational safety in the Malacca and Singapore Straits.

Main Role of the VTS
To provide i) Information Services (INS), ii) Navigation Assistance Services (NAS) and iii) Traffic Organization Services (TOS), to improve the safety and efficiency of navigation and protect the marine environment.