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**PRESS RELEASE**

**November 23, 2004.**

**The Third Country Training Programme for Iraq  
on Water Supply and Sewage**

**P O I N T**

**JICA will sign an agreement with WAJ on the Third Country Training Programme for Iraq in Water Supply & Sewage on 24<sup>th</sup> November (10:15) at the Ministry of Water & Irrigation.**

- 1. Training Title: Water Supply & Sewage**
- 2. Host Institutes: WAJ and JICA**
- 3. Duration: November 2004 to March 2005**
- 4. Number of Participants: 20 from Baghdad Mayoralty**
- 5. Objectives:**
  - (1) To introduce effective operation and maintenance system of water supply and develop an action plan.**
  - (2) To enable participants to conduct surveys and develop a development plan by their own capacities,**
  - (3) Draw up a water supply and sewage facility development plan by conducting data collection and analysis in Baghdad with support from**

**Japanese experts**



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The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Water Authority Jordan (WAJ) will carry out the joint training programme, under the agreement with the government of Japan and Jordan, focusing on Water Supply and Sewage for 20 Iraqi Engineers from Baghdad Mayoralty.

Long lasting conflicts and successive economic sanctions caused water supply and sewage systems become obsolete and malfunctioned.

The Government of Japan has supported Iraq reconstruction in this field, i.e. provision of compact water treatment units, water tankers, special vehicles of garbage disposal and sewage cleaning and so forth.

In parallel with those facilities and equipment assistance, institutional capacities of water supply and sewage authorities have to be strengthened to secure smooth reconstruction and effective operations.

Among various institutional needs, policy and development planning, and operation and maintenance are the most urgent issues to be tackled with.

In this context, JICA, in cooperation with WAJ, will carry out the Training Programme with the following two main purposes;

1. Capacity building in Operation and Maintenance for Water Supply

Participants will be lectured on effective water supply operation and maintenance system. Several study tours are also included in the programme such as water treatment plants, pump stations, compact units, and management system using GIS. Participants are also expected to learn how to cooperate with private sectors for effective operation.

Through the programme, participants will gain overall concept and technologies on effective water supply, and develop an action plan for strengthening water supply operation and maintenance system in Baghdad.



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2. Capacity building and practice in Policy and Development Planning for Water Supply and Sewage

The programme is divided into three stages. In the first stage, participants will learn how to formulate development policy and planning in water supply and sewage sector. Also they are going to identify priority projects for rehabilitation and/or expansion of water and sewage facilities, and prepare basic study implementation plan.

In the second stage, which will be taking place in next January, they will carry out basic study by themselves in Baghdad based on the plan developed in the first stage. They will collect and compile data, analyze and put them together to a report.

In the third stage start from next March, participants will present the result of their practice at second stage, and finalize a development policy and planning report.

This report is expected to utilize water supply and sewage facility development projects in the future.

Through this programme, we can produce a development policy and planning report without sending Japanese experts to Iraq where security situation is too deteriorated to receive foreign aid workers.

Two Japanese experts will be in Amman to deliver lectures as well as to support their survey activities and reporting.

It is the goal of our activities to develop their capacities so that they can carry out actual reconstruction works by their own initiatives, and support their sustainable development.

JICA, as technical cooperation agency, has conducted capacity development programmes in various fields in cooperation with Jordan and other neighboring countries in line with Japanese Government's Iraq reconstruction programme.

So far, training programmes in health, electricity, statistics and water resources for totaling 400 Iraqi participants have been successfully implemented this year. We plan to organize these training programmes in many other sectors as such as IT, cultural heritage and public security in order to support reconstruction of Iraq. The total number to be trained within this Japanese fiscal year will be approximately 600.

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