



# The WEMRB Project

The Project for Strengthening Capacity  
of Water Environmental Management in River Basin



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## The 2nd JCC Meeting was held

On 01 December 2016, the second Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) Meeting was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cau Giay, Ha Noi City.

Agendas of this extra JCC Meeting were to announce Decision No. 2652/QĐ-BTNMT on the establishment of JCC, to monitor and confirm the progress of project and encountered issues, and to discuss on the activity plan and expected outputs/outcomes of the Project.



*Participants with Vice Minister Nhan of MONRE and Senior Chief Representative Kakioka of JICA Office*

At this JCC meeting, participants were more than 40 of concerned people from MONRE, organizations under the umbrella of MONRE, JICA Vietnam Office, JICA's Expert Teams and the Departments of Natural Resources and Environment (DONREs) of target river basins.

It was started with the opening remarks of Vice Minister Vo Tuan Nhan and Senior Chief Representative Naoki Kakioka followed by the introduction of participants.

Project summary was reported by the Project Coordinator Nguyen Hoang Phuong Lan.

Summary on activities, obtained outputs/outcomes and work plan were reported by Chief Adviser Ichiro Adachi and Short Term Expert Kengo Naganuma, the members of JICA Expert Team.

Then, after a coffee break an active discussion was done.



*JCC Meeting Co-Chairs, Dr. Dung, Dr. Nhan, Mr. Kakioka*



*A Scene of the Meeting*

## **The progress of project & encountered issues**

From January 2016, this project has been running with the goal to the development of 6 circulars (coordination mechanism, loading capacity, pollution source inventory (PSI), information sharing, environmental compensation, and compensation & responsibility) which will highly contribute to the improvement of water environment in Vietnam. During about one-year, the project established Pilot Projects (PPs), mainly related with simulation model and PSI, which will contribute to the development of circulars. The project has also implemented the 1st Capacity Assessment and technical trainings of several courses to improve the technical and administrative knowledge of Vietnamese counterparts, to conduct better water environmental management. The Training in Japan (July 2016) and Study Tour in Binh Duong Province (September 2016) were launched to have opportunities to learn and consider water environmental management for the future. These activities will be continued to 2017.

Through the implementation of these activities and development of legal documents, the project

found some issues for them. The project would like to recommend several things as follows;

- To nominate the legal documents (circulars) prepared by the Project in the legal document promulgation plan of 2017 or 2018. And it is necessary to clarify the differences between Decree and Circular.
- For circular(s) providing administrative procedure: MONRE is requested to add them into the list and report to the Government for approval and early development.
- To identify effective ways on administrative measures proposed by the Project, such as information sharing, enhancement of river basin organizations and identification of actors, etc.
- The “Coordination Mechanism” is one of the most important factors for RBWEM and the project to define and clarify clearly.
- Counterparts at central and local level continue to closely cooperate in implementation of project activities.

## The activity plan after the JCC Meeting

As for the PPs, through the sub-contract work cooperating with the concerned DONREs, PSI and pollution source map in the pilot project area will be finalized soon for Cau river basin, and in January 2017 for Dong Nai - Saigon river basin. Regarding simulation model for calculating loading capacity, its development work will be completed in February 2017. Both outcomes will be shared with MONRE and the provinces participating in the project, and will be used for trial estimation of loading capacity in the pilot area by co-working between Vietnamese counterparts and JET. The outcomes are expected to contribute providing practical experiences for river basin management.

In the PPs, a series of technical training named advanced training course (ATC) will be conducted by using outcomes mentioned above as training materials after March 2017. Through the technical trainings, the participants will be expected to obtain practical knowledge and experiences to conduct river basin water environmental management.

As mentioned above, the project will develop the circulars, and the outcomes of PPs including technical training will be reflected to make the developed circulars more practical for national and local administrative officers who engage in river basin management.



*Discussions during the Break Time at the 2nd JCC Meeting*