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## PRESS RELEASE

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## JICA SUPPORTS STRENGTHENING CAPACITY IN WEATHER FORECASTING AND FLOOD EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

*Hanoi, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023* – The seminar on "Using Hydro-Meteorological Information for Disaster Risk Reduction in Vietnam" was held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> in Hanoi, drawing the participation of some 100 representatives from related organizations and agencies from Vietnam and Japan. The event is within the scope of the Project for "Strengthening Capacity in Weather Forecasting and Flood Early Warning System" implemented by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Viet Nam Meteorological and Hydrological Administration (VNMHA).

At the seminar, Mr. Tran Quang Nang -Vice Head of Department of Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting Management, VNMHA- and Ms. Bui Hai Binh -Director of the Center for Weather, Vietnam Television- respectively gave presentations on "The Current Status of Hydro-meteorological Forecast for Disaster Risk Reduction Activities in Vietnam and Future Orientation" and "Natural Disaster Information Communication in the context of Climate Change and Prospects for Cooperation between the Media Agency (VTV) and the VNMHA in the 4.0 Era".

Notably, the seminar welcomed the keynote speech of Mr. Hasegawa Naoyuki, former Director General of Japan Meteorological Agency, about "The Role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Disaster Risk Reduction" which shared Japan's experiences in developing techniques as well as improving the effectiveness of forecasting and warning activities. Particularly, Mr. Hasegawa emphasized the importance of promoting the information utilization for regional disaster prevention in cooperation with related organizations.

The Project has been implemented from 2018 to 2023, and this is the last seminar organized within its scope. After five years, the Project has been contributing to strengthening the capacity of VNMHA in (1) maintaining and enhancing the traceability of meteorological observation equipment; (2) analyzing the statistics and controlling the quality of radar; (3) forecasting/ warning of heavy rain and typhoon; and (4) disseminating meteorological information.

JICA will actively work with the Government and people of Japan to cooperate and support VNMHA in forecast capacity improvement, contributing to realizing the goal of developing Vietnam's hydrometeorological services to meet the requirements of socio-economic development, disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation.

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