

## **Memorandum of Cooperation**

### **On the Mechanism of Ministerial Meeting among the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, and the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea**

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, and the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as 'the Participants'):

**Considering** the climate change, rapid urbanization and demographic change, Japan, China and the Republic of Korea are facing exacerbated water risk, such as floods, droughts, typhoon, and sea level rise,

**Acknowledging** the importance of close trilateral cooperation among the Participants in the field of water management,

**Recalling** the Message from Joint Sessions of the Participants in the Fourth World Water Forum 2006, the Joint Declaration announced by the Participants in the Fifth World Water Forum 2009, and the strong political endorsement of trilateral cooperation on water shown by the leaders of the three countries in the *Joint Statement on Sustainable Development among Japan, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea 2009*,

**Seeking** to strengthen the cooperation among the Participants by establishing a mechanism of ministerial meeting in the field of water management under the principle of equal dialogue, improving understanding, mutual benefit, and practical cooperation,

**Establish** the terms of this Memorandum of Cooperation on the Mechanism of Ministerial Meeting as follows:

## I

### **Objective**

The Participants will, in accordance with this Memorandum of Cooperation, the laws, regulations and policies applicable in each country, make use of the mechanism of ministerial meeting to advance cooperation in the field of water management in order to realize the following goals:

1. Strengthen and develop the existing bilateral and trilateral cooperation and integrate cooperation platforms between governmental and non-governmental sector.
2. Enhance the coordination and collaboration of the Participants in the World Water Forum and other international conferences and water activities.
3. Promote exchanges and sharing of science and technology, information and experience on such areas as flood and drought management and disaster reduction, focusing on integrated river management and water resources management adapting to climate change.

## II

### **Arrangement of the Ministerial Meeting**

The ministerial meeting will be organized as follows:

1. The ministerial meeting will be held at least every three years, especially during the year when World Water Forum (WWF) is organized. The ministerial meeting can also coincide with other important international conferences or water-management activities or be held independently in Japan, China or the Republic of Korea by each host Participant. The ministerial meeting will be organized on the venue of WWF, other important international conferences or water-management activities or Japan, China or the Republic of Korea.
2. The chairmanship will be shared by the Participants on a rotational basis; however when the ministerial meeting is held in Japan, China or the Republic of Korea, the host Participant takes the chair of the meeting.

3. The size of each Participant's delegation should not exceed 10 persons, except for the host.
4. If necessary, a senior official preparatory meeting will be held before the ministerial meeting.

### III

#### **Contents and Outcomes of the Ministerial Meeting**

The Participants envisage the contents and outcomes of the ministerial meeting as follows:

1. Issue joint statements on special topics or fields during important water events, such as World Water Forum.
2. Discuss and approve the joint research programs on consented topics.
3. Discuss and promote the cooperation in terms of exchanges on water policy, development strategies, public education and capacity building.
4. Strengthen the coordination and collaboration in providing the water technology training to other countries.

### IV

#### **Financing Arrangement**

Funding of the ministerial meeting and joint research program should be co-financed by the Participants. Other expenses (accommodation, international and domestic airfare, interpreters, etc) should be paid by the Participants; however when the ministerial meeting is held in Japan, China or the Republic of Korea, the host Participant will cover the costs of venue, facilities and simultaneous interpretation incurred by the ministerial meeting.

## V

### **Communication and Liaison**

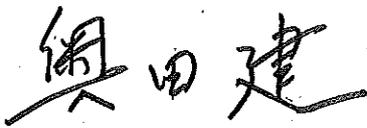
Water and Disaster Management Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, the Department of International Cooperation, Science and Technology of the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China, and Water Resources Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Korea will act as liaison agencies. Each Participant will appoint an official at senior official level and an assistant for communication and liaison in relation to the Ministerial meeting.

## VI

### **Miscellaneous**

The cooperation under this Memorandum of Cooperation will commence on the date of its signature and continue for a period of six years. Any change of this Memorandum of Cooperation will be made with the written consent of the Participants. The cooperation under this Memorandum of Cooperation will be automatically renewed for a period of six years unless either Participants requests its termination by submitting a written notice to other two Participants six months prior to the date of expiration. The termination of this Memorandum of Cooperation is without prejudice to the completion of on-going projects.

The Memorandum of Cooperation was signed in triplicate in Marseille, France on 13 March, 2012. The text of the Memorandum of Cooperation was written in English.



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Senior Vice-Minister

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan



**CHEN Lei**

Minister

Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China



**HAN Man-Hee**

Vice-Minister

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