

Opening Remarks
ASEAN Hydrographic Survey Workshop

KIYA Masahiko, Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN
Jakarta, 13 September 2023

Mr. Novie Riyanto, Secretary General of Ministry of Transportation,
Republic of Indonesia,

Captain Antony Arif Priadi, Acting Director General of Sea
Transportation, Ministry of Transportation, Republic of Indonesia,

Mr. Arumugam V.S. Subramaniam, Director, Maritime Operations,
Malaysia Marine Department, Malaysia,

Captain M Segar, Assistant Chief Executive, Maritime and Port
Authority, Singapore,

Mr. MIYATAKE Yoshifumi, Senior Deputy Director-General, Maritime
Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism,
Japan,

Distinguished participants, Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning! First and foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Ministry of Transportation Indonesia for hosting today's workshop just after the ASEAN-related Summit meetings last week, as well as to Malaysia, Singapore, the Malacca Strait Council and Aero Asahi for continued support for the project.

I would also like to thank all the speakers and moderators for contributing to today's event. It is a great pleasure to be with you all who are taking time to join this workshop.

As you all know, the Straits of Malacca and Singapore are among the most important and busiest waterways around the world. The straits greatly contribute to the ongoing trade in ASEAN as well as the whole Indo-Pacific region including Japan. This means that ensuring maritime safety in the straits is essential for prosperity in our region.

In this regard, the project of “Joint Hydrographic Survey of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore”, including today’s workshop, will update the navigational chart of the straits and provide an opportunity for participants to engage in active discussions and valuable information sharing. This will lead to substantial improvement of maritime safety in the straits. The Government of Japan is pleased to support this important and impactful project through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund, JAIF.

The ASEAN Summit last week strongly endorsed the mainstreaming and implementation of ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific, AOIP. I believe that today’s workshop will contribute to the implementation of the AOIP in the field of maritime cooperation and connectivity as priority areas and will also enhance ASEAN-Japan partnership.

During the Summit last week, Japan announced the Japan-ASEAN Comprehensive Connectivity Initiative including projects worth 2.8 trillion yen, that is 190 billion US dollars, and technical cooperation. Japan has made an additional contribution of 100 million US dollars to the JAIF earlier this year.

This year marks the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Cooperation and Friendship. Japan established the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Strategic Partnership at the ASEAN-Japan Summit last week and will host the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in Tokyo in December this year.

Let me conclude my remarks by expressing our commitment that Japan will advance the AOIP and connectivity-related initiatives to further deepen our cooperation with ASEAN in the maritime transport sector.

Our joint efforts will bring about sustainable impact not only in ASEAN and Japan but across the Indo-Pacific region and the world.