

## **Japan Signs Document of Cooperation with Indonesia to Help Introduce Nuclear Power**

**On November 22, the Japanese and Indonesian governments signed a document of cooperation in Jakarta relating to assistance, etc., to be given for the preparation, planning, and promotion of Indonesia's nuclear power development.**

The document was signed by Hidehiko Nishiyama, Director General of the Electricity and Gas Industry Department of Japan's Agency for Natural Resources and Energy (ANRE), who was then on a visit to Indonesia to attend the 8th Japan-Indonesia Energy Roundtable Conference, and Jacob Purwono, Director General of the Electricity and Energy Utilisation in Indonesia's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources. Also present at the signing were Dr. Purnomo Yusgiantoro, Indonesia's Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, and Shin Ebihara, Japanese ambassador to Indonesia.

In November 2006, Minister Purnomo had visited Japan and met with Minister Akira Amari of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). That meeting produced the joint statement regarding cooperation in energy and mineral resources, committing to cooperation toward the promotion of the introduction of nuclear power in Indonesia. The latest document gave that earlier statement more concrete form.

The scope of the cooperation will encompass information exchange, assistance and personnel training related to the preparation, planning and promotion of nuclear power development, and assistance for public-relations activities, among others. The entities responsible for carrying out the cooperation are the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) from the Japanese side, while the Indonesian side will be represented by the Directorate General of Electricity and Energy Utilization. The period of cooperation initially last until the end of December 2008, but can be extended further if both sides agree.

Under the leadership of the national government, Indonesia is now pressing ahead with a plan to introduce nuclear power, slating to start construction of its first unit in 2010, the commercial operation of which will commence in 2016. The country will then successively construct more units, aiming at the eventual development of 4,000MW in nuclear power capacity by the year 2025.

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