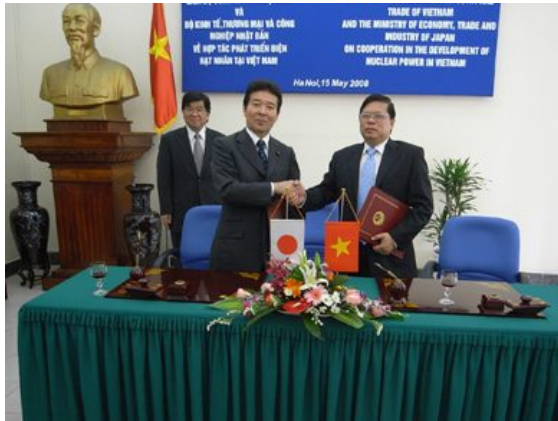


## Vietnam & Japan Sign Memorandum to Cooperate in Nuclear Power Development, with Private-Sector Exchange Activities to Be Implemented

On May 15, Vietnam's Vice Minister of Industry and Trade, Do Huu Hao, met with Japan's Senior Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Masashi Nakano, with the two signing a memorandum entitled "Nuclear Power Development Cooperation in Vietnam."



Enjoying high economic growth of 7-8% per year, Vietnam is preparing for its first nuclear power plant (NPP), the construction of which is expected to be launched by 2015. Japan will fully cooperate with Vietnam in the undertaking, using the combined resources of its public and private sectors.

The memorandum covers cooperative activities in the following areas: (1) the preparation, planning and promotion of nuclear power development; (2) human-resource development; (3) the development of safety regulations; (4) public

information activities; and (5) other areas to be mutually agreed upon. The period of cooperation will last until March 31, 2010, and can be extended by mutual agreement.

The signing came during the Third International Exhibition on Nuclear Power, held May 14-17 in Hanoi under the theme of "Towards a Project on Construction of the First Nuclear-Power Plant in Viet Nam." Representatives from six countries – France, South Korea, Russia, China, Vietnam and Japan – took part in the exhibition.

The Japanese contingent included representatives of the Federation of Electric Power Companies (FEPC), the Japan Atomic Power Co. (JAPC), the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum (JAIF), Toshiba, Hitachi-GE, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). It occupied the largest space at the site – some 200 m<sup>2</sup> – and exhibited a large model of the latest NPP, along with fuel and steam generators and various explanatory panels.

A total of about 8,000 visitors (as announced by the organizer) attended over the course of the four-day exhibition – including many members of the national legislature, related persons and ordinary citizens – making the exhibition an unqualified success.

*Editor: Mio Kimuro, JAIF*