

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT
BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS
OF JAPAN AND THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING AND
TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND
ON THE COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
BROADCASTING

30th APRIL 2015, Bangkok

The Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan, H.E. Ms. Sanae Takaichi and the Chairman of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission of the Kingdom of Thailand, H.E. Air Chief Marshal Thares Punsri met in Bangkok on 30th April 2015 during her first official visit to the Kingdom of Thailand. The visit served as a follow-up to the Japan-Thailand Joint Press Statement between H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan and H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand issued on 9th February 2015.

1. We, Minister Sanae Takaichi and Chairman Thares Punsri recognise the importance of the fruitful and mutually beneficial cooperative activities including cooperation on telecommunications and broadcasting under Agreement between Japan and the Kingdom of Thailand for an Economic Partnership.

2. Considering that the development of information and communications technology (ICT) is a major factor in the promotion and advancement of commerce as well as the social and economic development of both countries, we will determine to cooperate with each other in, especially but not limited to following areas:

2.1 International Mobile Roaming

2.1.1 We believe that lowering international mobile roaming rates is quite important for the travellers between Japan and Thailand, which are expected to continuously increase in number. The lower rates will contribute not only to their pleasant experiences during their visits but also to a better mutual understanding through such visits.

2.1.2 Towards this, we recognise the significance of lowering the Inter-Operator Tariff (IOT) because it shares a large part in the international mobile roaming cost structure.

In this regard, we will explore the principles and measures to lower IOT on international mobile roaming between both countries, especially but not limited to that on data roaming. It is because we are fully aware of the importance of mobile internet itself as well as its nature which covers a certain extent of voice call.

2.1.3 In order to realise the principles and measures mentioned above, we are willing to cooperate closely at bilateral level as well as to join forces with each other in the relevant regional and multilateral forums such as ASEAN, APEC, APT and ITU. We are also willing to provide necessary support in order to encourage relevant business negotiations between operators in Japan and operators in Thailand.

2.2 Broadcasting

2.2.1 Recalling the long history of friendships between Japan and Thailand, we recognise the importance to continue promoting our cooperation in the field of broadcasting. We also recognise that promoting people-to-people exchanges in the field of broadcasting will enhance the Japan and Thailand relations even further.

2.2.2 We are pleased that the Business Matching Conference on Broadcasting Programmes and the Next-generation Broadcasting Round Table are held successfully, which will contribute to developing new broadcasting business through promoting cultural exchange especially in terms of co-production on broadcasting industry as well as to enhancing our cooperation through continuing information exchange on next-generation broadcasting such as 4K and smart TV.

2.2.3 In order to develop new broadcasting business, we are willing to continue the close cooperation in this field at bilateral level as well as in the relevant regional and multilateral forums such as ASEAN, APEC and ABU. We are also willing to provide necessary support for business negotiations in order for Japanese and Thai media businesses to cooperate on co-production of, for instance, drama programmes, documentary programmes, variety programmes, location productions, production services, and post production services. In addition, we are also willing to explore more specific cooperation in the field of next generation broadcasting between Japan and Thailand.

3. We greatly anticipate that further mutual benefits will be brought to the consumers of Japan and Thailand as a result of our initiative mentioned above.