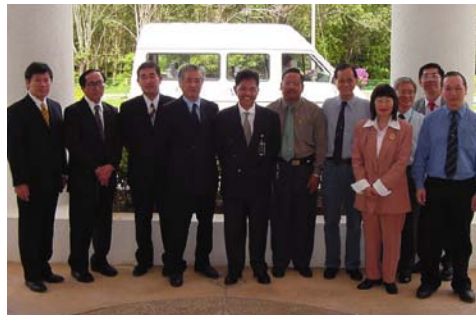


# News from Alumni

## SOF Research Delegation visited Malaysia and Vietnam



SOF delegation was welcomed in Malaysia

SOF, in cooperation with the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT), has been implementing research into a potential network for seafarers' education and training by use of simulators since FY 2001. Experts were dispatched to Europe in FY 2001, and the Philippines and Indonesia in FY 2002, which are major providers of seafarers for the world fleet.

As for FY 2003, the SOF-sponsored delegation of MET experts visited Malaysia and Vietnam during the period of December 10-18, 2003 to look into the present state of seafarers' training by using simulators in the two countries. The mission was headed by Prof. Hiroaki Kobayashi, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, and Prof. Makoto Endo, Toyama National College of Marine Technology. They were accompanied by Mr. Eisuke Kudo, managing director of SOF, and Mr. Tatsuya Sendo, general manager of International Affairs Department of SOF.

The delegation paid a visit to the following organizations in those countries: Ministry of Transport Maritime Department Peninsular Malaysia; Malaysia Maritime Academy; Vietnamese Ministry of Transport (MOT); Vietnam National Maritime Bureau (VINAMARINE); Vietnam Maritime University (VIMARU), and VINIC (The Center for Training and Improvement of Maritime Professions, Nippon Steel Shipping Co., Ltd.).

The delegation visited Malaysia Maritime Academy on December 12 and met with the following people: Zainar Akbar Abdul Samad, M.Sc. Mni, Milt M.Ikmal, Master Mariner, Director of Training and Education; Chong Chee Wah, Head of Marine Electronics & Communication; Ahmad Zahari Mohd Tahir, MS (Ed), B.Sc., Academic Registrar; Ben Lee, Msc., Master Mariner, Adv. Dip. Logistics; and Wong Yoon Quee.

Mr. Abdul Samad (1992), head of the education and training department of the university, had time to accompany the Japanese visitors on a small campus tour, providing total support for their research.

The three-year long SOF/MLIT research program has developed an agenda of technical cooperation for Asian countries in the area of seafarers' education and training, and expedited the creation of a network linking those seafarer supplying countries and Japan. SOF would like to take this opportunity to thank all the WMU graduates for their cooperation and hospitality extended to us in execution of the program.

## Prof. Hikima met WMU graduates in the Philippines

By Prof. Toshio Hikima  
Marine Technical College

Although I'd taken business trips to a great number of countries by sea and air, it was my very first time to visit Manila, the Philippines in October. At the MARINA meeting, I was so happy to see a Sasakawa Fellows on the other Philippine side, and I was very proud to see them doing a great job. Also, I was pleased that I had a chance to meet and talk to many WMU graduates when I visited Philippine Coast Guard (PCG). It is my greatest pleasure to see WMU graduates working extensively and with pride.

I think that I am very lucky to be one of the WMU graduates all over the world, and it is even more meaningful to me because I am working in the field of maritime affairs. Needless to say, this business trip also turned out to be such a joyful one.



Prof. Hikima with WMU graduates of Philippine Coast Guard

## Sasakawa Fellow Alumni 2003

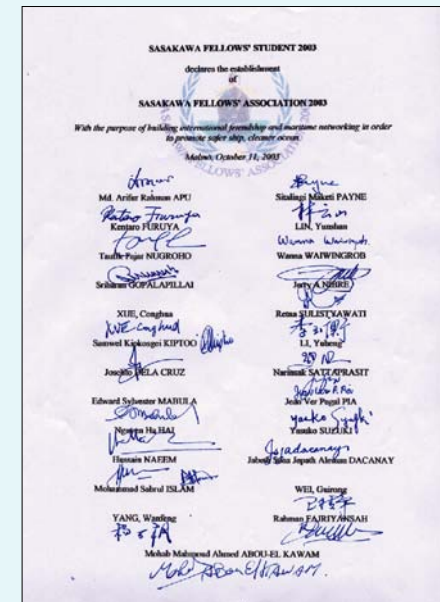
Specially attentive to the necessity of building and maintaining friendship and communication, the Sasakawa Fellows of Class 2003 voluntarily set up an alumni association to 1) facilitate an exchange of information among their peers; 2) promote international understanding and policy harmonization in maritime matters; and 3) maintain a close relationship and cooperation for the development of maritime industry worldwide.

Similar associations like this are expected to work together with the individual national chapters of Sasakawa Fellows, to which members of such associations belong on a country basis, as warp and woof of the Sasakawa Fellows' global network.

The voluntary alumni association, "Sasakawa Fellow Alumni 2003 (SAF)," was established on October 11, 2003. Mr. Tafik Fajar Nugroho, the 2003 recipient of the C. P. Srivastava Award for International Fellowship, became the first Secretary General of SAF. He will gather and update information on SAF members and distribute it through the SAF mailing list. The members will take on the one-year-term position in turn in alphabetical order of the names of their countries. SAF

members will keep in contact and exchange updated information through the Internet.

Mr. Kentaro Furuya drafted the Deed of Establishment of Sasakawa Fellow Alumni 2003, which was signed by all 25 members from 14 countries.



The Deed of Establishment of Sasakawa Fellow Alumni 2003 signed by the members

## The Filipino Chapter chairman joined in an international cooperation program for marine accident investigation.



Mr. Tsuya (left) and Mr. Tuason (right)

participants was a familiar face from the Philippines, Mr. Luis Masangque Tuason Jr., Commander, the Philippine Coast Guard Intelligence and Investigation Force, and chairman of the Association of WMU-Sasakawa Fellows (Philippine Chapter), Inc. Mr. Tuason represented PCG at the program.

Keeping in mind that extensive international cooperation is essential to cope with marine accidents involving foreign flag ships where owners and other parties of investigation are of different nationalities, MAIA has provided an opportunity to exchange views and information among experts from Asia, thereby forming an effective cooperation scheme of joint investigation of marine accidents in the future.

"The Mock Drill/Meeting for Asia Regional Cooperation on Marine Accident Investigation" was held at Moji, Kitakyushu, Japan, on December 4-5, 2003.

The event was organized and hosted by the Marine Accident Inquiry Agency (MAIA) of Japan, under the sponsorship of SOF. A total of 15 experts from Korea, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Russia, and the United States were invited to the drill-cum-meeting program. To our joy, among the foreign

Between-meetings, Mr. Tuason recounted the action plan for 2004 of the Filipino Chapter to Mr. Takuo Tsuya, manager of the International Cooperation Division of SOF, who also participated in the program representing the sponsor.