



ASEAN-OSPAR Preparatory Meeting for Information Network*

The ASEAN-OSPAR Preparatory Meeting for Information Network was held from Feb. 6-7 2003 at The Oriental Singapore under the chairmanship of Mr. Tadashi Shimura, Managing Director of Nippon Maritime Center Ltd. and General Manager of Singapore Representative Office, the Japan Association of Marine Safety. Delegates from member countries Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, and observers from Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam attended the meeting. An expert each from the Japan Coast Guard (JCG) and the Japan Association of Marine Safety also attended.

Capt. Myo Thant, one of WMU Sasakawa Fellows (MSEP 1999), was present as an observer from Myanmar. He currently works with the Department of Marine Administration, Ministry of Transport as Deputy Director of Nautical Div.

Mr. Loeung Simona, an observer from Cambodia, is one of the WMU graduates (SM 2002).

The meeting revised and agreed to the draft proposal on the information network, which will be submitted to the 2nd ASEAN-OSPAR Management Meeting for approval, the summary of which is as follows:

The information network consists of three elements, i.e. homepage linkage, e-mail exchange and human network. The homepage linkage is set up for basic information exchange, e-mail is used for routine information exchange with particular member countries and sometimes used for urgent information exchange in case of incidents. As for the human network, it comprises of a contact person (CP) from each member country, who is responsible for information exchange through the aforementioned homepage linkage and e-mail.

ASEAN-OSPAR project was established under the member countries' recognition of the necessity and significance of further cooperation among member countries in responding appropriately and promptly to oil & HNS (Hazardous and Noxious Substances) spill incidents. In line with such recognition, Japan has come up with a new proposal for the establishment of an information network, which would assist in managing the flow of information as well as promoting the activities of the project.

*OSPAR: Oil Spill Preparedness and Response



Philippine Fellows welcomed The Nippon Foundation and SOF

Representatives from The Nippon Foundation and SOF visited Manila to attend the conference on "Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships" on March 6-7, 2003. Taking this opportunity, they met with members of the Philippine Chapter at the Diamond Hotel in Manila over dinner on March 5.

Inspirational messages were given by Mr. M. Nagamitsu, Executive Director of The Nippon Foundation; Mr. H. Terashima, Executive Director of Institute for Ocean Policy, SOF, and Mr. Luis M. Tuason, Jr. (MSA 1995), Commander, CG Intelligence and Investigation Force, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG).

The meeting was presided by Mr. Joseph B. Badajos (MSEP 1999), director of PE School, PCG. Other Sasakawa Fellows at PCG who attended the meeting are:

Mr. Lino H. Dabi (MSA 1997), Commander, Coast Guard Aviation Group

Mr. Eduardo D. Fabricante (MSEP 2001), Director for Operational Lecturer CGTC

Mr. Ferdinand Velasco (MA 2002), Director, Plans & Program (Marine Pollution & Oilspill Combating)

Mr. Rolando L. Punzalan, Jr. (MSEP 2002), Director of Academic School

Mr. Elso E. Hermogino (GMAEP 1996), Assistant Chief of Staff, International Affairs

Mr. Y. Yamada, Manager of Domestic Program Section, Dept. of Maritime Affairs, The Nippon Foundation; Ms. N. Goto, Section Chief of International Affairs Div., Marine Technology and Cooperation Dept., SOF also attended the meeting.

Mr. S. Mori, First Secretary of Japanese Embassy in Manila, Messrs. Kajita and Fukuhara, representatives from Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Mr. T. Shimura, Managing Director of Nippon Maritime Center and Mr. K. Kawagoe, Deputy General Manager of the Japan Association of Marine Safety were also present.

Towards the end of the session, Mr. Myo Thant (MSEP 1999), Deputy Director (Nautical) of the Department of Marine Administration of Myanmar joined in this Fellows' meeting. He also came to Manila to attend the SOF co-sponsored "Piracy Conference".

Expectation was voiced by the participants for the Sasakawa Fellows' Network to further expand in the Philippines.



Reunion of WMU Graduates and Sasakawa Fellows in Jakarta

Participants:

Mr. Danny Tarigan (GMA 1989), Chairman, Arcturus Maritime Association (AMA)

Cap. Yan Risuandi (MSA 1990), Head of Program Division, Maritime Education and Training Center, Ministry of Communications

Mr. Rusman Hoesien (MSA 1994), Head of Education Development, Maritime Higher Education Center, Ministry of Communications

Mr. Albert Samboh (GMA 1989), Deputy Director, Directorate General of Sea Communications, Ministry of Communications

Mr. Roy Kasiono (GMAEP 1996), Senior Staff, Planning Development Bureau, Directorate General of Sea Communications, Ministry of Communications

Mr. Jansen Sinaga (GMA 1988), Special Communication Attaché to Bangka Province, Ministry of Communications

Mr. Heru Prasetyo (GMA 1992), First Secretary, Indonesian Embassy in United Kingdom

Ms. Liesye Wuntu, Deputy Director, Directorate General of Sea Communications, Ministry of Communications

A preparatory meeting for "Reunion of WMU Graduates and Sasakawa Fellows" was held on 21st February, 2003 in Jakarta. The intention is to strengthen the activities of WMU graduates for the promotion of Maritime Industries, Maritime Safety and Prevention of Marine Pollution in Indonesia.

A message from Mr. Tjuk Sukardiman, Director General of Sea Communications was presented. He expressed his gratitude to The Nippon Foundation and Ship & Ocean Foundation for all assistance and support given to Indonesia, especially scholarships for Indonesian students to study at WMU. He recommended AMA to be a counterpart of Ship and Ocean Foundation for further activities in Indonesia.

AMA is the general assembly composed of all the WMU graduates in Indonesia. The Sasakawa Fellows are the most active members of the assembly.

Several important issues were discussed and it was agreed to hold an assembly meeting in June this year.



The meeting of Prof. Ishida and Surabaya WMU Alumni

On 26th February 2003, Prof. Kenji Ishida of Kobe University of Mercantile Marine met with Surabaya WMU alumni in East Java, Indonesia who gathered at the news of the coming of our favourite professor at WMU. We had dinner together with delicious Indonesian dishes.

All of us were pleased to hear the recent programme and activities of SOF in the year 2003 especially about the idea of financing WMU Sasakawa Fellows to present reports in seminars or conferences, if the reports are accepted. Adrian (SM 2002) and Dothy (PM 2001) also talked about the establishment of Indonesia WMU alumni association in Cipanas, Bogor called AMA (Acturus Maritime Association).

All participants agreed to WMU Sasakawa Fellows having meeting in the year 2004. It is recommended that the venue be held in Bangkok, Thailand, for the following reasons:

- Bangkok city is relatively more accessible by air to and from other countries all over the world.

- The logistic and accommodation costs of that venue are relatively inexpensive.

- Thailand has many WMU graduates that already hold various positions in both private and governmental institutions

The dinner offered several photographic opportunities and champagne toasts. The meeting ended with the hope that the network and friendship of WMU alumni would continue for a long time.

*Mr. Raja Oloan Saut GURNING
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