

Resumption of Technical Exchanges with the Iraqi Ministry of Oil

JCCP invited four executive officers from the Training and Development Directorate of the Iraqi Ministry of Oil to Japan from December 14 to 18, 2009, to discuss the resumption of training and technical cooperation programs.

1. Background

The Iraqi Ministry of Oil and JCCP have engaged in technical exchanges since JCCP was established in 1981. As of the end of fiscal 2008, JCCP had received 360 participants to training courses in Japan and sent 26 Japanese experts to Iraq to hold local technical seminars. Between 1991 and 2003, both the acceptance of participants and dispatch of experts were discontinued due to wars. However, training programs in Japan gradually resumed in 2003, mainly beginning with courses initiated by JCCP member companies. A technical cooperation project was also launched in 2003 in support of reconstruction efforts in the country.

From this fiscal year on, JCCP is seeking to fully resume the acceptance of participants to JCCP-initiative courses and to examine opportunities of

implementing technical cooperation projects as its contribution to post-war reconstruction efforts in the oil downstream sector in Iraq. The recent meeting was therefore held to gain mutual understanding of situations in the two countries and to reach an agreement on the requirements for project implementation, toward re-establishing relations between the Iraqi Ministry of Oil and JCCP.

2. Visitors

The Training and Development Directorate of the Iraqi Ministry of Oil is responsible for human resource development and technical development in the entire oil industry in Iraq, and operates four training centers and an oil technology development center. The recent invitation to Japan was extended to four executive officers from the Training and Development Directorate: Mr. Iqdam M. R. Hashim Al Shadeedi, Deputy Director General, Training and Development Directorate (as leader); Mr. Jasim M. Hameed, Manager, Technical Department, Training and Development Directorate; Dr. Kareem Abdulhasan Alwan, Director, Petroleum Research



First Iraqi participant to a JCCP course after the re-establishment of relations with the Iraqi Ministry of Oil

Mr. Sale Saeed Abdulla, Technical Manager, North Oil Company (right)



Exchanging of the MOU on the resumption of exchanges with the Iraqi Ministry of Oil

Mr. Iqdam M. R. Hashim Al Shadeedi, Deputy Director General, Training and Development Directorate (right)
Mr. Masataka Sase, Executive Director of JCCP (left)

and Development Center; and Mr. Maher B. Antwan, Manager, Petroleum Refining Division, Petroleum Research and Development Center.

3. Main Points of the Discussion

On December 14, the executive officers from the Iraqi Ministry of Oil paid their respects to Mr. Masataka Sase, Executive Director of JCCP, at JCCP Headquarters, and then paid a courtesy visit to the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. The Japanese side explained that it wishes to provide post-war reconstruction assistance to the oil industry in Iraq through the implementation of training and technical cooperation programs. The Iraqi side responded by saying that it wishes to re-establish its ties with JCCP and receive JCCP's cooperation in modernizing the oil industry in Iraq. Through such dialogue, the two sides confirmed their mutual desire to recommence personnel and technical exchanges with each other.

The executive officers then held a meeting with JCCP and visited JCCP member companies to respectively discuss the recommencement of training programs and technical cooperation programs in specific terms. In regard to training programs, a JCCP-initiative course (TR-17: Training Management Course) had actually just begun

slightly in advance of this meeting, on November 24, with the attendance of a participant from the Iraqi Ministry of Oil. Both sides therefore agreed to the continued participation of Iraqi personnel in JCCP courses in Japan from fiscal 2010 on, as well. In regard to technical cooperation programs, the JCCP side assured the Iraqi side that it will work to acquire an accurate understanding of local situations concerning technical issues confronting the oil industry in Iraq, and the two sides promised to hold information exchanges on a continuous basis in the future.

4. Future Exchanges

The meeting allowed JCCP and the Iraqi Ministry of Oil to deepen their understanding of each other's situation and to confirm their mutual desire to re-establish friendly relations. In order for Iraq to make steady progress in post-war reconstruction, it is vitally important to help stabilize oil supplies and to provide support in bringing stability to people's lives and developing the industries. The Ministry of Oil has plans to establish a supply system of oil products by building more refineries and introducing modern equipment, and JCCP is planning on supporting this effort through the implementation of training and technical cooperation programs.

<by Hisayoshi Tanda, Administration Dept.>

Topics

Mr. Somantri, Vice President of Pertamina Learning Center, Visits Japan

On December 21, 2009, Mr. Suwardi Somantri, Vice President, Pertamina Learning Center, PT Pertamina, visited JCCP. Mr. Somantri assumed his current position in 2008, and as vice president in charge of the Pertamina Learning Center, he is responsible for developing next-generation leaders and otherwise promoting capacity-building among employees. He is also in charge of sending participants to JCCP-initiative courses.

1. Courtesy Call on Mr. Sase

Mr. Somantri met with Mr. Masataka Sase, Executive Director of JCCP, in the executive reception room at JCCP Headquarters. JCCP has received 1,485 participants from Pertamina and has sent 383 experts to Pertamina from the time of its establishment in 1981 to the end of fiscal 2008. "Pertamina is like an old friend to JCCP,"