
Major International Conferences

1. The 16th MLIT / FHWA Intergovernmental Conference and the 28th US-Japan Bridge Engineering Workshop (USA: October 8 to 10, 2012)

The United States and Japan Bridge Engineering Workshop is alternately hosted by both countries annually as an activity of Task Committee G (Transportation System) in the Panel on Wind and Seismic Effects, the U.S.-Japan Cooperative Program in Natural Resources (UJNR). The 28th Workshop took place in Portland, Oregon, in the U.S, in which the main issues were the inspection and maintenance of road bridges, seismic strengthening, and tsunami. Both countries shared and exchanged their recent knowledge extensively. An MLIT/FHWA meeting followed the US-Japan Bridge Engineering Workshop with representatives from governmental agencies from both countries for the exchange of information and discussion regarding the technical policy on highway bridge design, construction, operation, and maintenance.

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2. The 19th World Conference, Bilateral Meetings, PIARC, ITFVHA, FOT-net, AASHTO, VC Workshop (Austria: October 18 to 27, 2012)

ITS Division, with the Road Bureau of MLIT participated the 19th ITS World Conference and PIARC, ITFVHA, FOT-net, AASHTO, VC Workshops that were taken place in Vienna (Austria) to promote international collaboration of ITS, and Presentations (9 sessions) in a special session and so on along with article publication (7 papers) have been done. Also, information and opinion exchange with ITS related departments and agencies, and discussion regarding future collaborative research conference between two countries (The United States, European Commission, China and Korea) have been done. Along with that, investigation regarding foreign latest IST technology development and deployment strategy for utilization measure of safety improvement and probe data by using vehicle-to-infrastructure cooperation have been done.

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3. The 8th Japan and Italy Sediment Disaster Prevention Technology Conference (Japan: November 30, 2012)

The conference has been taken place in Japan or Italy every two years since 15 years ago between MLIT Sediment Control Department and National Research Council of Italy (CNR). We discussed latest policies, measures and research for prevention of sediment disaster at the past conferences. Also, Japan and Italy have done much collaborative research according to discussions in the past conferences. In this conference, it was agreed to proceed with collaborative research more closely in the future. Research Center for Disaster Management provided two presentations and organized the conference with MLIT Sediment Control Department.

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4. Completion of Project on Hazard Mapping for Sediment-related Disasters at UNESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee (China: November 26 to 30, 2012)

Since 2002, at UNESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee (TC), SABO (Erosion and Sediment Control) Division has continued to implement projects for dissemination of Japanese non-structural countermeasures against sediment-related disasters that is thought to be effective in developing countries. Following the “Sediment-related Disaster Forecasting Warning System Project” in 2002 to 2008, “Project on Hazard Mapping for Sediment-related Disasters” has been implemented since 2009. At the final year of the project, 2012, in the TC 7th Integrated Workshop (Nanjing, China), presentations regarding the project results during the 4 years, i.e. workshops for dissemination of technology in China and Vietnam etc., was held. Also, the final report of the project has been published in December that summarized the activities of the project and contents of the lectures in the workshops.

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5. International Disaster Prevention Society and Sediment Control Administrator Conference (France: Apr 2, 2012)

International Disaster Prevention Society (INTERPRAEVENT) has been organizing conferences about every four years since 1967 for engineers and researchers to discuss natural disaster prevention. In 1992, Sediment Control Administrator Conference, advocated by the Ministry of Construction Sediment Control Department (at that time), 1992, for responsible persons of national sediment control administration to exchange information, knowledge, experience etc., during the period of the conference organized by INTERPRAEVENT. This time, it took place just after the conference organized by INTERPRAEVENT in Grenoble, France, and representatives from 8 countries participated. It was agreed that the next administrator’s conference will be held in Japan, 2014. Moreover, consensus was reached about the importance for a new concept for a provision for disasters that exceeds the ordinal scale. Erosion and Sediment Control Division has made 2 scientific presentations at the conference organized by INTERPRAEVENT and also operated the administrator’s conference in cooperation with MLIT Sediment Control Department.

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