

Summary of the Discussion of the 2nd Joint Committee Meeting on Healthcare Between Japan and Viet Nam

1. The Second Meeting of Japan-Viet Nam Joint Committee on Healthcare, which is a high-level consultative mechanism under the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC), (hereinafter referred as the Joint Committee) was held in Hanoi on 18 December 2024, to foster continuous cooperation and dialogues under the framework of the MOC in the fields of Healthcare between Japan and Viet Nam signed on 1 July 2019.
2. The Second Meeting was hosted by Viet Nam and chaired by Vice Minister Nguyen Tri Thuc/Dr. Dang Quang Tan, Director General of International Cooperation Department. The Japanese side was led by H.E. Mr. Hideo Suzuki, Ambassador of Global Health and Executive Director for Healthcare Policy, Cabinet Office.
3. As main partners of healthcare cooperation, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry, Embassy of Japan in Viet Nam, Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred as JICA), the National Center for Global Health and Medicine (hereinafter referred as NCGM), and Medical Excellence Japan (hereinafter referred as MEJ) participated in the Joint Committee from the Japanese side as well as Viet Nam Population Authority, Preventive Medicine Administration, Food Safety Administration, Maternal and Child Health Department, Planning and Finance Department, Viet Nam Institute of Nutrition, Health Strategy and Policy Institute, Hanoi Medical University, University of Medicine and Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh City, Bach Mai Hospital and National Geriatric Hospital from Viet Nam side.
4. The Joint Committee acknowledged the progress made by joint efforts of both countries in various areas of cooperation, especially population aging and nutrition, under the MOC since the 1st High Level Joint Committee Meeting, hosted by Japan virtually, on 28 November 2023.
5. The Joint Committee discussed updates on the joint projects and proposed initiatives on the various Areas of Cooperation under the MOC:
 - a) On cooperation in Private Public Partnership in providing medical services related to population aging, the Joint Committee received a report from Medical Excellence Viet Nam (hereinafter referred to as MEV)-MEJ Forums. This report includes the achievements of four MEV-MEJ Forums covering several topics including elderly care,

non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and cancer prevention, in collaboration with several hospitals in Viet Nam.

- b) Regarding specific projects, the Joint Committee welcomed the progress of the ongoing matching project between major Japanese companies and Vietnamese hospitals. This includes the establishment of a Cancer Screening and Early Detection Center at Hanoi Medical University Hospital and the introduction of NCD Clinical Evaluation Platform at Bach Mai Hospital.
 - c) On cooperation in the fields of population aging and nutrition, the Joint Committee acknowledged the outcomes of several projects supported by JICA, including the projects in collaboration with Japanese private sector. The Vietnamese side and JICA will continue to explore opportunities for future collaboration, especially for holding dialogues on elderly care.
 - d) On developing human resource in the field of nutrition, the Joint Committee appreciated the continuous efforts of NCGM, which has implemented a project to provide training opportunities for medical professionals at Bach Mai Hospital. The project has contributed to improving the quality of stroke treatment, rehabilitation, nutrition and nursing care in Northern Viet Nam.
 - e) The Joint Committee welcomed the promotion of Japan-Viet Nam cooperation in global health, including third-party collaborations. It also acknowledged the possibility of future cooperation in addressing health issues through promoting impact investing.
6. The Joint Committee acknowledged the importance of fostering initiatives with mutual benefit for both countries by:
- a) Concurring on a roadmap for Japan-Viet Nam Cooperation on addressing population aging and nutrition issues between the Vietnamese and Japanese governments, and implementing the cooperation based on this roadmap in these fields,
 - b) Providing opportunities for issue identification, project idea generation and matching, such as MEV-MEJ Forum and the workshops “Viet Nam-Japan Population Aging and Nutrition Seminar” and “Viet Nam-Japan Healthcare Seminar and Business Matching” by the Cabinet Secretariat in October 2024,
 - c) Encouraging efficient communication among related parties, including Japanese companies, based on mutual understanding to develop new and sustainable projects, and
 - d) Identifying the projects for future cooperation, including third-party collaboration.

7. The Joint Committee affirmed the importance of continuous dialogues between the two parties, including the holding of the Third Joint Committee on Healthcare, to further contributing to solving healthcare and health system issues in both countries.

(End)