JTTRI International Seminar on "Railway and Area Development in Jakarta" Mr. Ishii's speech

Dear Mr. Heru Wisnu Wibowo M. Sc, Director of Railways Infrastructure, Directorate General of Railways, Ministry of Transportation of Indonesia, Mr. Masafumi Shukuri, Chairman of the Japan Transport and Tourism Research Institute (JTTRI). Professor Shigeru Morichi, Director of Policy Research Center, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Professor Sutanto, University of Indonesia, and you all distinguish guests, please allow me to give some speech for the opening of the "Seminar on Railway and Area Development in Jakarta" sponsored by JTTRI.

In Indonesia, the development of railways and usage of public transportation are being promoted from the viewpoints of countermeasures for traffic congestion and environmental issue. Among them, it was an epoch-making event that the Jakarta MRT, the first subway in Indonesia to be constructed using Japan's ODA, opened last March. This MRT connects the residential area in the south to the major business area along Sudirman Road, the major artery of Jakarta. Currently, the passenger is nearly 100,000 people a day. New offices and condominiums are being developed along the MRT line, and so-called TOD, which is exactly the topic of today's seminar, is being promoted.

In addition, last September, we have signed the summary record for the Java North Line Upgrading Project. Agreement between Japan and Indonesia has been reached on the prerequisites for the preliminary survey of the project. In this summary record, TOD, which generates extra-rail incomes, is considered to be an important factor. In the preliminary survey of the project, both Japan and Indonesia will examine the scheme for use private funding for TOD financing in the future.

Indonesian President Joko's 2nd term, starting from the last October, continues to emphasize infrastructure development, and a railway development project through cooperation between Japan and Indonesia is ongoing.

The full-scale construction of Phase 2 of the Jakarta MRT North-South Line will be commenced in spring 2020. Electrification and quadruple-track construction of the Jakarta suburban section of the Java North Trunk Line

completed in 2022. The construction of the Java North Line Upgrading Project will be started in 2023. Full-scale construction of the MRT East-West Line and various railway improvement projects are underway.

On the other hand, the Indonesian government has been constantly addressing the means to provide more infrastructure investment while taken less burden on the national budget. Development along rail lines, the topic of today's seminar, is just the knowledge which Indonesia needs, and it is an indispensable element that must be considered when promoting railway development in Indonesia. It can be said that the today's seminar is just a timely one. The Japanese government will continue to promote railway development projects through cooperation between the two countries in a manner that fully takes into account the development of railway lines, based on the lectures given today.

In 2045, Indonesia will celebrate the 100th anniversary of independence. By that time, both Japan and Indonesia are committed to cooperae economically with the common goal of becoming "the world's top five economies". We are confident that Japan can continue to be a "friend" where Japan and Indonesia need each other, not only through infrastructure development projects but also through various forms of cooperation, including human resource development and technical cooperation.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere hope that meaningful exchanges of opinions will be held at the seminar today, and hope for a fruitful result.