

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION
ON
THE TECHNICAL INTERN TRAINING PROGRAM
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND HUMAN RESOURCES OF BHUTAN
AND
THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, LABOUR AND WELFARE OF JAPAN

The Ministry of Labour and Human Resources of Bhutan (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry of Bhutan") and the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Ministry of Japan") shared the view that the purpose of the Technical Intern Training Program is to transfer technical skills, techniques and knowledge (hereinafter referred to as "technical skills, etc.") to Bhutan, to contribute to the human resource development by which the development of the economy of Bhutan would be led and thus to promote international cooperation. Based on this view, the Ministry of Bhutan and the Ministry of Japan (hereinafter referred to collectively as "both Ministries") have decided as follows in order to adequately advance the Technical Intern Training Program:

(Purpose)

1 The purpose of this Memorandum is to transfer technical skills, etc. from Japan to Bhutan appropriately and smoothly through the Technical Intern Training Program by setting out the commitments between the Ministry of Bhutan and the Ministry of Japan to send and accept technical intern trainees and thus to promote international cooperation.

(Commitments of the Ministry of Japan)

2 The Ministry of Japan, in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan in India, if considered appropriate, will carry out the following commitments related to the acceptance of technical intern trainees from Bhutan in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of Japan:

(1) When the Ministry of Japan receives the information from the Ministry of Bhutan on a sending organization that intends to send technical intern trainees to Japan (hereinafter referred to as "Sending Organization") and has been approved by the Ministry of Bhutan to meet Sending Organization's Approving Standards described in Attachment 1 (hereinafter respectively referred to as "Approved Sending Organization" and "Approving Standards"), to make such information publicly available in Japan;

- (2) To accept only those technical intern trainees of Bhutan who are sent by Approved Sending Organizations after the commencement of cooperation under this Memorandum. However, the Ministry of Japan may not accept technical intern trainees of Bhutan in case that a technical intern training plan related to the technical intern trainee is not approved and so forth, even if they are sent from Approved Sending Organizations;
- (3) To substitute an approval to a Sending Organization by the Ministry of Bhutan for the letter of recommendation for the Sending Organization by a public authority of Bhutan after the commencement of cooperation under this Memorandum, provided that the Ministry of Bhutan completes procedures for the approval of Sending Organizations and provides the Ministry of Japan with a full list of Approved Sending Organizations;
- (4) Not to require the letter of recommendation for technical intern trainees by public authorities after receiving a full list of Approved Sending Organizations, on the condition that the Ministry of Japan receives the Certificate described in Attachment 3 after the commencement of cooperation under this Memorandum;
- (5) When the Ministry of Japan receives from the Ministry of Bhutan the information on the revocation of an approval of Approved Sending Organizations, to make such information publicly available in Japan; and
- (6) To provide necessary information when the Ministry of Japan receives inquiries from the Ministry of Bhutan pertaining to issues such as the status of implementation of the Technical Intern Training Program, any revisions of the Program, or any additions of the occupations covered by the Program.

(Commitments of the Ministry of Bhutan)

3 The Ministry of Bhutan, in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of Bhutan, will carry out the following commitments with regard to sending technical intern trainees:

- (1) To ensure that the recommendation, which is made by a public authority, on a Sending Organization that is considered to have the ability to properly coordinate the applications of the technical intern trainees for the supervising-organization-type of the Technical Intern Training Program to supervising organizations in Japan (the recommendation stipulated in paragraph 1, Article 25 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees) may not be made by any public authorities other than the Ministry of Bhutan;
- (2) To examine whether or not Sending Organizations meet Approving Standards, and to give approvals when Sending Organizations are considered to meet Approving Standards;
- (3) To make the names and other information of Approved Sending Organizations in Bhutan publicly available when the approvals set out in the previous paragraph are

given. To provide the Ministry of Japan with the information on Approved Sending Organizations in the form specified in Attachment 2, and to continue issuing the letter of recommendation for Sending Organizations which the Ministry of Bhutan considers appropriate to send technical intern trainees to Japan until the Ministry of Bhutan provides the Ministry of Japan with a full list of the Approved Sending Organizations;

- (4) When the Ministry of Bhutan is informed by the Ministry of Japan that an Approved Sending Organization seems to have exercised activities in consistent with Approving Standards or other improper activities, to conduct investigations over the Approved Sending Organization in question, to provide necessary guidance and supervision, and to report the results to the Ministry of Japan;
- (5) To provide guidance to Approved Sending Organizations in Bhutan in order to select and send technical intern trainees in an appropriate manner, to revoke an approval when the Ministry of Bhutan considers that an Approved Sending Organization no longer meets Approving Standards, and to notify the results to the Ministry of Japan;
- (6) To cooperate on follow-up surveys conducted by the Ministry of Japan concerning the situation of utilization of acquired technical skills, etc. after the technical intern trainees return to Bhutan, by, in particular, providing guidance to Approved Sending Organizations in order to obtain accurate feedbacks as many as possible from those former technical intern trainees;
- (7) To provide the Ministry of Japan with information required, when the Ministry of Bhutan receives inquiries from the Ministry of Japan pertaining to guidance and supervision records exercised over Approved Sending Organizations, records related to Approval of Sending Organizations, matters related to the types of job categories in demand for technical transfer in Bhutan and so forth; and
- (8) To designate the Employment Services Division under the Department of Employment and Human Resources as the public Sending Organization for the Technical Intern Training Program.

(Designation of Contact Points)

4 Both Ministries will designate respectively the following contact points related to communications and coordination between both countries in order to effectively implement the activities under this Memorandum.

- (1) For Japan, the International Affairs Department of the Organization for Technical Intern Training. For modification and supplementation of this Memorandum and desire to terminate the cooperation under this Memorandum, the Entry and Status Division of the Immigration Bureau, the Ministry of Justice and the Office of Counselor for Overseas Human Resources Development, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.
- (2) For Bhutan, Human Resource and Skills Development Division under Department of Employment and Human Resources, Ministry of Labour and Human Resources.

(Settlement of Issues)

5 Both Ministries will consult with respect to the implementation of activities under this Memorandum or issues arising in relation to the implementation, including occurrences of technical intern trainees' disappearances and deportations of illegally staying technical intern trainees, and will settle such issues amicably and in close cooperation, through diplomatic channels as deemed appropriate, with each country's relevant ministries and agencies.

(Implementation within the scope of laws and regulations)

6 Cooperation under this Memorandum will be conducted within the scope of the laws and regulations in force in each country. Either of Ministries will not disclose confidential information obtained from the other Ministry through cooperation and exchange of information within the framework of this Memorandum without the written consent from the other Ministry.

(Consultation)

7 Representatives of both Ministries will consult from time to time, as necessary. Both Ministries will consult through diplomatic channels as deemed appropriate.

(Others)

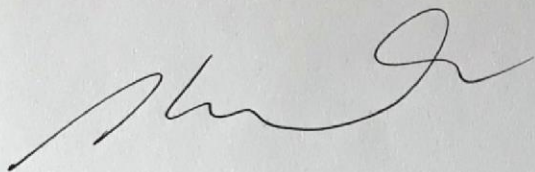
8 This Memorandum was signed in Tokyo, on 3 October in 2018. The cooperation under this Memorandum will commence on the date of its signature. With the commencement of this Memorandum, the cooperation between both Ministries on the Technical Intern Training Program will be conducted under this Memorandum.

The cooperation under this Memorandum will continue for a period of five years from the date of its signature and will be extended automatically for additional five years unless there is a written notice by either Ministry not to desire to extend it sixty days in advance of the termination date. In case that either Ministry wishes to terminate the cooperation based on this Memorandum before the end of the five-year period mentioned above, the cooperation may be terminated by a written notice to the other Ministry indicating such intent, not later than ninety days before the desired termination date.

The contents of this Memorandum will be modified or supplemented as necessary with written consent from both Ministries.

This Memorandum is made in English.

For the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources of Bhutan **For the Ministry of Justice of Japan**



和田 雅樹

For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

高橋 克新

For the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan

吉本 明子