Measures Regarding Maritime Transport Safety

1. Improvement of Maritime Traffic Environment

In view of the growth in size of vessels, higher speed of ships, diversification of coastal sea area utilization, more complex vessel traffic and others, and in order to ensure safe and smooth navigation and safety in ports, it is intended to develop shipping routes, ports and harbors, fishing ports, Aids to Navigations and others and enhance information regarding safety such as charts, Sailing Directions, tidal currents and others as well as to establish information provision systems using ICT.

In the area of natural phenomena affecting maritime traffic, efforts will be made to ensure appropriate monitoring toward the publication and transmission of forecasts and warnings in a timely and appropriate manner and to prevent accidents and mitigate damage, as well as to enhance information provided toward its effective usage.

Ongoing work will also be performed in the operation and improvement of forecast models for ocean waves and storm surges, and in improvement of the accuracy and details of marine forecasts and warnings, in order to leverage the benefits of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS).

The development of facilities at passenger ship and ferry terminals will be promoted so that all users including the elderly and persons with disabilities can use them safely and with reduced physical burden.

In addition to taking measures designed to check the implementation status of security measures in international port facilities based on the Act on Assurance of International Ships and Port Facilities (Act No. 31 of 2004) and to foster personnel, the immigration management at the port facilities will be enhanced and security measures in ports and harbors strengthened.

- Developing traffic safety facilities
- Ensuring safety in areas with heavy marine traffic
- **f** Enhancing the provision of information on maritime transport
- Developing passenger ship terminals in response to the aging society

2. Ensuring Safe Operations of Ships

In order to ensure safe navigation of ships, the prevention of human errors in ship navigation, improvement of qualifications of seamen and maritime transport operators, audit by seafarers labour inspectors, full instructions on the prevention of recurrence of accidents and the evaluation of transport safety management will be promoted among other measures and the supervision of qualification requirement of crews of foreign ships will be also promoted. In addition, we will promote tsunami disaster prevention measures for ships at the occurrence of a large-scale tsunami by urging maritime transport operators to prepare a ship's tsunami evacuation manual.

We will promote the development of an environment to use ships for emergency transportation in cooperation with local public bodies and operators by improving operation of the "ship matching program" designed to rapidly choose ships in accordance with disaster needs.

- Prevention of human errors
- Enhance operational management of ships
- **f** Secure qualifications of seamen
- Promote measures to prevent accidents and disasters at sea
- ... Ensure safety by means of pilotage system
- **†** Promote the supervision of foreign vessels
- **‡** Strengthening of measures to deal with large-scale disasters

3. Enhancing Safety Measures for Small Boats

Since maritime accidents of small boats account for about 80% of the total of maritime accidents and many of their causes are human errors, concerted efforts designed to help enthusiasts of marine leisure and fishing-related people alike raise their awareness will be promoted by relevant organizations in a coordinated manner.

For this reason, we will expand collision prevention measures and information provision in utilization of smart phones to prevent human errors, promote awareness raising of matters to be complied with by small ship pilots, and implement corrective guidance to offenders.

Furthermore, we will make well known that it has become mandatory as a rule for all small ship crew and passengers to wear a life jacket since February 1, 2018 by means of a variety of methods such as distribution of leaflets, use of internet, etc.

In addition, we will promote the development of environment, such as development of a boat park.

- Prevention of human errors
- Inform and raise awareness of compliance requirements

- Increase life-jacket usage rate
 Promote safety measures for pleasure boats
 Promote safety measures for fishing boats, etc.
 Develop boat parks, fish arenas, etc.