

July 8, 2025

Road Bureau, Planning Division

Japan and Italy Sign Memorandum of Cooperation on Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Long Span Bridge

--- Cooperating on the Messina Strait Bridge Project, set to become the World's Longest Suspension Bridge ---

On July 8, 2025, Hiromasa Nakano, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) held talks with Matteo Salvini, Italian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Infrastructure and Transport, and signed a "Memorandum of Cooperation on Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Long Span Bridges."

The two countries will strengthen their cooperative relationship going forward by sharing expertise through bilateral meetings and other means.

<Summary>

(1) Date: July 8, 2025 (Tuesday)

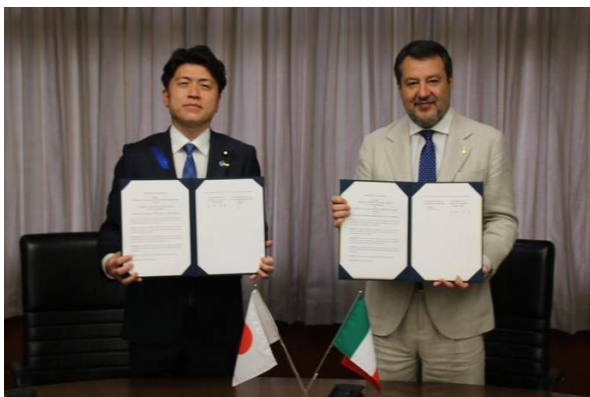
(2) Signatories:

[Japan] Hiromasa Nakano, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

[Italy] Matteo Salvini, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Infrastructure and Transport

(3) Outline of the Memorandum:

1. Strengthening mutual cooperation in the construction, operation and maintenance of long span bridges
2. Sharing knowledge and experience through regular meetings, etc.



Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of Cooperation



Scene of the meeting

Background of the MoU Signing

- The Messina Strait Bridge Project in Italy is a construction project that includes the world's longest suspension bridge with a central span of 3,300 meters. Although the project was suspended in 2012, procedures for its resumption began under Meloni, Prime Minister in 2023.
- The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) has agreed to sign a Memorandum of Cooperation with Italy's Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport to share Japan's longstanding expertise in the construction, operation and maintenance of long span bridges and to facilitate cooperation for the success of the Messina Strait Bridge Project.