

Decision to Support the Optical Submarine Cable Business in the Southeast Asia Region

Fund Corporation for the Overseas Development of Japan's ICT and Postal Services (hereinafter, "JICT") (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Yoshiyuki Fukuda), jointly with NTT Worldwide Telecommunications Corporation (hereinafter, "NTT WT") (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Kenichiro Iida)^{*1} and WEN Capital Pte. Ltd. (hereinafter "WEN") (Singapore; Director: Lim Soon Foo)^{*2} decided to establish a joint venture and invest and extend loans totaling 78 million U.S. dollars maximum in order to become involved in the optical submarine cable business in the Southeast Asia region. The project has been approved by the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications as of today.

In the Southeast Asia region, global communication traffic is growing due to remarkable economic growth and the rising use of smartphones, and demand for connectivity among global data centers also appears to be increasing.

In response to such strong demand, the NTT Group, which operates an optical submarine cable business globally, will take part in this project with the support of JICT and will bolster its optical submarine cable business in the Southeast Asia region. This is expected to further strengthen Japan's international competitiveness in the infrastructure business involving optical submarine cables in general.

JICT will continue supporting Japanese companies' overseas business development in the areas of information and communications, broadcasting and postal services.

*² SPC of Malaysian operator that installs and maintains optical submarine cables

[Overview of the project to be supported]

 $1\,$ Target business: Construction of optical submarine cables and sales of the asset and rights to its use

2 Company Name: Orient Link Pte. Ltd.

- 3 Location: Singapore
- 4 Capital:119 million U.S. dollars
- 5 Joint equity holders: NTT WT, WEN

6 Determined amount of funds to be supplied by JICT: 78 million U.S. dollars maximum

*The project scheme is as shown on the following page.

^{*1} NTT WT's news release can be viewed through the website of NTT Ltd.: <u>https://hello.global.ntt/en-us/newsroom</u>



[Scheme of the project]



*JICT will establish a commitment line for the new company.

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