

PREFACE

In response to a request from the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Government of Japan decided to conduct a basic design study on the Project for Construction of the International Cooperation and Training Center and entrusted the study to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

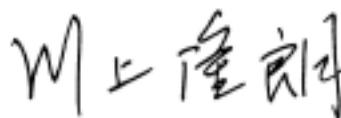
JICA sent to Lao a study team from March 3 to March 28, 2002.

The team held discussions with the officials concerned of the Government of Lao, and conducted a field study at the study area. After the team returned to Japan, further studies were made. Then, a mission was sent to Lao in order to discuss a draft basic design, and as this result, the present report was finalized.

I hope that this report will contribute to the promotion of the project and to the enhancement of friendly relations between our two countries.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the officials concerned of the Government of Lao for their close cooperation extended to the teams.

July, 2002



Takao Kawakami
President
Japan International Cooperation Agency