

Process of promoting the Parliamentary League for Strengthening and Developing Hubs in Japan (March 2009)

1 □ Meeting with Minister Mah Bow Tan at the end of July 2008

Representatives of the Liberal Democratic Party and the Democratic Party of Japan advocating casino introduction to Japan asked Suzuki to cooperate with them with the introduction of casinos successfully into Japan.

Suzuki gave them the following advice, and suggested that a letter to Minister Mah Bow Tan from the chief of the delegation consisting of the two parties to Singapore be written. Suzuki handed the letter to the minister when he visited Singapore.

Suzuki's Advice:

1. In order to make the introduction of casino a success, overseas investments to Japan should be mobilized, and Japan should participate in hub dynamism in Asia.
2. In order to obtain public support, the concept of introducing casinos as a part of the hub development initiative should be prepared.

Suzuki explained the above concept to the responsible representatives of the two parties and the members of the non-partisan regular meetings that Suzuki organizes.

The parliament members understood the importance of having cooperation from Minister Mah Bow Tan as Singapore is going ahead of Japan in the introduction of casinos and developing its port and airport as hubs.

Suzuki, therefore, explained Minister Mah Bow Tan the above, and asked for his cooperation with the establishment of a bilateral high-level organization and with drafting the Basic Hub Development Act in Japan.

2 □ CEOs of PSA and Hutchison Port expressed their intention for cooperation. They are private sector hub operators, and government-linked corporations in Singapore and private corporations in

Hong Kong which are potential participants in investments and development projects to be implemented along with hub development.

3□ The plan to promote hub development gained an important position as an economic stimulus measure for Japan whose economy is dependent on exports when the world economy is undergoing a great depression.

4□ Suzuki discussed with a few dozen MPs of different parties, and organized the Parliamentary League for Strengthening and Developing Hubs in Japan in December 2008. The purpose of the League is to further consider concrete policies and to implement the plan as an economic policy for the post-financial crisis period.

5□ For promoting hub development, Suzuki prepared documents describing policies required of the Japanese government aimed for Japan, and policies to which cooperation is required from the governmental and private-sector operators in Singapore and Hong Kong (see attached 4 documents).

6□ Suzuki received messages from Minister Mah Bow Tan and members of government-linked corporations in Singapore that they had shared a part of the plan.

7□ The first meeting of the Parliamentary League for Strengthening and Developing Hubs in Japan was held in December 2008.

“We need a drastic plan to implement in order to cope with the current once-in-a century economic crisis. This hub development plan can be said to be that kind of plan,” said MP Noda.

The Parliamentary League agreed on the legislation of the “Basic Hub Promotion Act” (tentative title). The bill will be submitted in the name of the Parliamentary League modeling after the case of the “Basic Space Act,” in which the Democratic Party first prepared the framework, which was submitted in the name of non-partisan group of MPs and approved by the Cabinet for enforcement.