



This mail service is intended to provide the latest information concerning building regulations and our activities with domestic and overseas organizations, which are engaged in technical assessments and research in the building field.

If you no longer wish to receive this mail, please contact us at the following address:

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CONTENTS

§1. Recent Topics on Buildings and Housing in Japan

§2. Information on BCJ Activities

§1. Recent Topics on Buildings and Housing in Japan

Introduction of regulatory measures on energy efficiency of buildings

In Japan, the Act on the Improvement of Energy Consumption Performance of Buildings (The Building Energy Efficiency Act) was established in 2015, in order to accelerate energy saving measures in the building sector. In 2016, based on this act, incentive measures were introduced for building owners whose buildings conform to the incentive standards, which allows a bonus of floor area ratio for these buildings. Following this, regulatory measures on energy efficiency of buildings, such as obligation to conform to energy efficiency standards (energy consumption performance standards) will begin in April 2017.

In the case of new construction, addition or rebuilding of specified buildings (non-housing of more than 2,000m² in area), it is required to obtain an energy efficiency certificate. When a building plan does not conform to the energy efficiency standards, application cannot be received for building confirmation (permission). During the building inspection at the time of completion it is confirmed whether or not the construction work has been done in accordance with the certified building plan.

A new department has been set up at BCJ to confirm compliance with the energy efficiency standards. BCJ will continue to provide convenient services to building owners and will contribute to the promotion of the measures for energy efficiency of buildings in Japan, not only by performing building confirmation and inspection as a building confirmation and inspection body, but also by performing “one-stop” services, which include energy efficiency conformity review.

§2. Information on BCJ Activities

(1) International Meeting of BCJ, in 2016

a) The 7th Japan-China Meeting on Building and Housing Technology

BCJ, CBL*1, and CCTC*2 held the 7th Japan-China Meeting on Building and Housing Technology in Tokyo, Oct. 12-13, 2016.

➤ Outline of the meeting program

Day 1: Technical site visit of a green building in Tokyo

Day 2: Conference and technical site visit of a housing complex in Tokyo

➤ Main topics of the presentations

- Present status of the activities of respective participating organizations (BCJ, CBL, CCTC)



The 7th Japan-China Meeting on Building and Housing Technology in Tokyo in 2016

- Trend of Japanese housing policy for the elderly
- Trend of development of components for remodeling of housing in Japan
- Development of green housing in urban areas in China

The next meeting will be held in China in 2017.

*1 CBL: Center for Better Living (Japan)

*2 CCTC: China Construction Technology Consulting Co. Ltd

b) The 21st WFTAO*³ Annual Meeting, in Madrid

From Oct. 18 to 20, 2016, the 21st WFTAO annual meeting was held in Madrid, Spain, hosted by IETcc*⁴. Twenty-one people from 11 organizations from 11 countries, including BCJ, participated in the meeting. Reports on recent technical assessment activities were exchanged among the organizations in attendance. Members shared information on the latest issues that respective organizations or countries are facing.



The 21st WFTAO Annual Meeting in Madrid in 2016

*3 WFTAO: World Federation of Technical Assessment Organizations

*4 IETcc: Eduardo Torroja Institute for Construction Science (Spain)

*5 BBA: Building Board of Agreement (UK)

c) The 24th Japan-France Building Colloquium

BCJ, BRI*⁶ and CSTB*⁷ held the 24th Japan-France Building Colloquium in Paris, from Nov. 29 to Dec. 2, 2016.

➤ Outline of the conference program

Day 1: BCJ/BRI-CSTB meeting

Day 2: Joint conference with Japanese and French ministries

Day 3: Joint technical site visit with Japanese and French ministries



Representatives of three organizations: BRI, CSTB, BCJ:
Japan-France Building Colloquium in 2016 (in CSTB Paris office)

➤ Main topics of the presentations in BCJ/BRI-CSTB meeting

- Adaptation of buildings to population aging, in terms of R&D and assessment/certification of construction products and systems.
- Research and development from the viewpoint of universal design
- Evaluation of evacuation plan for the elderly, from the viewpoint of the verification method for floor evacuation safety
- Health and Building / Indoor Air Quality of Buildings / Air Cleaning Systems
- Thermal environment and health in buildings
- How to reduce construction claims. Role of technical assessment and quality certification at different levels (from products to buildings)
- Third Party Evaluations for Products, Design and Construction Works in Japan

The next Colloquium will be held in Japan in 2018, with the same three organizations participating.

*6: Building Research Institute (Japan)

*7: Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment (France)

(2) Report on International Training Seminar

a) JICA*8 Knowledge Co-Creation Programs (Group & Region Focus) and Country Focused Training Courses

In 2016, BCJ organized and operated the following training programs, which were entrusted to us by JICA:

- *Disaster Prevention of Buildings (against earthquake, tsunami, typhoon, fire, etc.)*, June 22-Aug. 5 (14 participants from 10 countries: Algeria, Bangladesh, Chile, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Samoa, Turkey)
- *Improvement and Disaster Prevention of Housing and Living Environments*, Sep. 28-Nov. 17 (15 participants from 9 countries: Armenia, Bangladesh, Colombia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Turkey)
- *Earthquake Disaster Mitigation and Seismic Design for Central Asia and Caucasus Region*, Jan. 23-Feb. 10 (13 participants from 5 countries: Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kyrgyz, Turkmenistan)



Site visit of high rise building
JICA knowledge co-creation program on
Improvement and Disaster Prevention of Housing
and Living Environments in 2016

*8 JICA: Japan International Cooperation Agency

c) 2016 IYSH Housing Seminar *9



Site visit at UR Technology Research Institute
2016 IYSH Housing Seminar

BCJ was entrusted by the Japan Housing Association to conduct the 2016 IYSH Housing Seminar. The seminar was held from Aug. 29 to Sep. 2, 2016. (14 students from 7 countries and regions: Cambodia, China, Colombia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Japan)

The program consisted of lectures on the housing situation and the housing policy in Japan, and site visits to high-density urban areas, the historical-townscape preservation

district, public housing and others. The participants also made presentations on what they had learned in the seminar, and discussions were held on each presentation.

^{*9} IYSH Housing Seminar: Housing seminar for foreign students and trainees in Japan in commemoration of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

(3) Report on international information sharing activities

We made presentations in Japan and overseas to meet the requests of the governments and the organizations as below.

Date in 2016	Topics/Presentation titles	Events	Venue
June 3	Trend of Environment and Energy Saving Policy for Housing and Buildings in Japan	China (Guizhou), International Eco Building and Construction, Science and Technology Exhibition	Guiyang, China
July 27	Activities of "Designated Building Confirmation and Inspection Bodies" and "Designated Evaluation Bodies", by BCJ	Lecture for the Observation Group for Energy Saving Housing and for Housing for the Elderly from China	Tokyo
	Energy Saving Systems for Housing in Japan		
Sep. 19	Housing in Japan	Housing Policy Seminar in Myanmar	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Sep. 21	Publicly Operated Housing	Housing Policy Seminar in Myanmar	
Sep. 26	Energy Saving Systems for Housing in Japan	Lecture for the Observation Group for Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, China	Tokyo

(4) Activities of Japan Global Exchange Forum for Housing, Building and Urban Development: JHBUD

Japan Global Exchange Forum for Housing, Building and Urban Development (JHBUD) was established on Sep. 26, 2016, by related 20 industries in housing, building and urban development areas. BCJ is supporting this forum as the secretariat until September 2018.

The purpose of this forum is to promote international exchange of entities in these areas that have a good liaison with the governments of Japan and with other foreign countries, to share information among the members, and to promote all necessary projects.

According to the purpose, JHBUD held the following seminars, and the detailed information of each seminar is available on the following BCJ website:

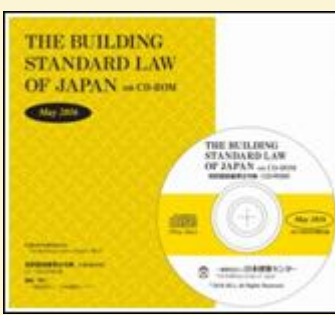
- Japan-Sri Lanka Urban Development Seminar 2016 (Oct. 10, 2016, in Colombo, Sri Lanka)
<http://www.bcj.or.jp/en/what/srilanka01.html>
- Japan-Myanmar Seminar for Urban Development and Housing 2017 (Jan. 31, 2017, in Yangon, Myanmar)
<http://www.bcj.or.jp/en/what/myanmar01.html>

(5) BCJ Publications in English

a) The Building Standard Law of Japan on CD-ROM

The Building Standard Law of Japan on CD-ROM is the English translation of the Japanese building code. A revised version was published in May 2016.

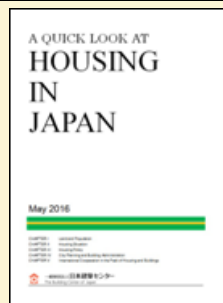
Please check here: <http://www.bcj.or.jp/en/services/publication.html>

	<p>The current edition Outline of the Building Standard Law of Japan (May 2016)</p> <p>Price: ¥10,000 (consumption tax (¥800) will be added in case of purchase within Japan)</p> <p>File form: PDF Language: English Pages: 1,350 (Print Size: A4) Date of publication: May 2016</p>
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b) A Quick Look at Housing in Japan (May 2016)

This publication provides a summary of the housing situation and the housing policy in Japan. It has been updated many times since it was first published, in 1985, in order to reflect policy changes and shifts in the housing situation. BCJ has updated both the English and the Japanese editions again, and the revised versions were published in May 2016.

Please visit here: <http://www.bcj.or.jp/en/services/reference.html>

	<p>The current edition A Quick Look at Housing in Japan: June 2016</p> <p>Price: Free File form: PDF Language: English/Japanese Pages: 94 (Print Size: A4) Date of publication: May 2016</p>
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