



## MOU signed between ICUS and Qatar Transportation Traffic Safety Centre

**Dr. Miho IRYO, Associate Professor, IIS, The University of Tokyo**

Qatar Transportation Traffic Safety Centre (QTTSC) and ICUS have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for collaborative research programs related to urban safety.

Qatar faces critical issues on traffic safety by the increasing population from foreign countries. As more than 90% of population is non-Qatari, there is a huge variation of road user behavior and some of them may not even understand traffic rules in Qatar. Due to an increased demand of the safety analysis and effective countermeasures, Qatar Road Safety Studies Centre in Qatar University re-organized this year to Qatar Transportation and Traffic Safety Center, in order to solve the issues from viewpoints of traffic engineering and operations.

Assistant Professor Dr. Wael Alhajyaseen of QTTSC visited ICUS in April 2016, on behalf of Dr. Khalifa Al Khalifa, Dean of College of Engineering of Qatar University. At this opportunity, a seminar on traffic safety and pedestrian behaviors was held to share the state-of-the-arts of traffic safety and related researches in Japan and Qatar. It is found that the similar research approaches which have been applied in Japan can also be utilized to Qatari traffic conditions. Dr. Alhajyaseen also visited traffic control center of Metropolitan Police Department in Tokyo for understanding a general framework of control system, including how traffic safety and congestion information is collected and used for operation.

ICUS and QTTSC agreed to start joint research activities of traffic safety analysis to improve road geometric design and traffic operation technologies. This MOU conclusion was reported by several newspapers in Qatar. We expect that this agreement will accelerate the research activities of both countries.



MoU between QTTSC and ICUS (Left : Dr. Wael Alhajyaseen of QTTSC, Assistant professor, Center : Prof. Kimiro Meguro, Director of ICUS, Right : Dr. Miho Iryo of ICUS, Associate professor).