Submission in response to the request of information

based on the Human Rights Council resolution 27/31 (Japan)

●Supportive regulatory framework

Through the Act to Promote Specified Nonprofit Activities, the government formulated a system of bestowing legal personality on organizations that engage in specified nonprofit activities in order to promote the development of citizen’s free social action programs. With the same Act, the government formulated an authorization system to provide certification for specified nonprofit corporations that help to promote the public interest through conducting appropriate business activities under fair management structures.

●Conducive political and public environment

The “Basic Policies for the Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2014” (Cabinet decision, June 24, 2014) stipulate that “The government will promote the society of mutual assistance overflowing with vitality through developing important players, such as NPOs and social enterprises, in solving social problems and revitalizing local communities. In addition, supporting the activity of mutual assistance financially, ministries and agencies concerned cooperate and promote breeding of the culture of donation.”

Furthermore, the Minister of State for Economic and Fiscal Policy made mention of the same contents in his Economic Policy Speech to the 189th Session of the Diet.

●Right to information and long-term support and resources

The government maintains a database that includes details of the activities of the specified nonprofit corporations and makes this information available to the public online. It also shares details of the system formulated by the government which is relevant to the specified nonprofit activities online.

Further, in 2014, the government conducted research into efficient methods for development of human resources capable of management in areas such as fund-raising and business operations and published reports on its findings.