

## **Upon the Publication of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights**

TO:

The Inter-Ministerial Committee on Japan's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

FROM:

All Members of the Advisory Committee on the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

The Government of Japan launched the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights ("NAP") on 16 October 2020. Issues covered by the "Business and Human Rights" are extremely wide ranging, involving highly diverse individuals and organisations inside and outside the country, as well as a broad array of relevant government policies. We hereby reiterate our respect for the efforts of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division, Foreign Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant government ministries and agencies that have facilitated the challenging NAP formulation process.

Over three rounds of Advisory Committee meetings held in June 2019, February and August 2020, the members of the Advisory Committee shared their respective views on the draft NAP. Now that the NAP has been launched, reflecting these views to some extent, we recognise that we have reached a new starting line.

There remain, however, many challenges to be addressed in light of the primary objectives of the State national action plans. We sincerely hope that the process of implementation, monitoring, and revision of the NAP ensures effective implementation and further revisions, which will fully contribute to resolving the challenges.

We, the members of the Advisory Committee, hope that the Government will fully acknowledge the "Joint Stakeholder Comments - On the Publication of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights" issued by all the members of the Working Group and put in place an effective implementation and revision process of the NAP under a new framework, in which we are ready to actively participate, as we did in the NAP formulation process.