

## “Crime Victims’ Week” Project

In order to help the crime victims recover from the damage caused by the crime and restore their peaceful life again in the regional community, not only should the State and local governments implement measures to that effect, but it is also essential to make each and every person in the community aware of it and work cooperatively on the basis of that. Consequently, as the Basic Plan, the Cabinet Office set up the Crime Victims’ Week (from November 25 to December 1) in collaboration with the National Police Agency, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. In this week, the enlightenment programs are conducted.

### 1 Contest for selecting a Slogan

In addition to the introduction and explanation of the measures with the help of posters and pamphlets to foster the understanding of citizens concerning crime victims, it is also important to appeal to the public in a simple and intelligible language. Consequently, a slogan which will generate a wide public support and express the significance of supporting crime victims was selected in 2007.

From the 701 applications, Mr. Keiji Miyata’s (Shiga Prefecture) “Social support that transforms sadness to hope, was selected as the most excellent and awarded a prize by the Minister who is in charge at a “Central Public Meeting.”

This slogan was used in the posters and promotion goods. 5 other slogans were also selected and put on website of the Cabinet Office, Policies on Crime Victims.



Recognition of most excellent work (Central Meeting)

### 2 “Public Meeting”

Following 2006, a Central Public Meeting was held on December 1, hosted by the Cabinet Office, to foster the citizens’ understanding on crime victims’ present conditions and the importance of giving consideration to their honor and peace in life. Also, the Cabinet Office and the local governments co-hosted regional meetings in 4 prefectures: Kumamoto Prefecture (November 25), Ibaraki Prefecture (November 26), Aichi Prefecture (November 27), and Hokkaido (November 29). With support of the relevant ministries, victim organizations and support groups, and the participation of experts, the keynote lectures and panel discussions on the theme of crime victims were held. Besides this, group poetry reading and commendations, interviews of the bereaved families of crime victims, mini concerts, reports of the victim support activities etc. were conducted in each meeting. An exhibition corner was put up in each hall to introduce the efforts of crime victim entities and the concerned organizations.



Kumamoto Meeting



Ibaraki Meeting



Aichi Meeting



Hokkaido Meeting

Similar to the year of 2006, the visitors to the meeting were asked to answer to a questionnaire to get to know their impressions about the meetings in general. Although the questionnaire proved that the convention was well received, there were several people who know nothing about crime victims. It was highlighted that we needed more publicity and efforts for enlightenment about crime victims.

The result was put on the website of the Cabinet Office, Policies for Crime Victims, and the report was sent to the concerned organizations.

In 2008, the Central “Public Meeting” hosted by the Cabinet Office will be held in Tokyo on December 1. Regional Meeting co-hosted by the Cabinet Office and local governments are scheduled to be held in 4 places: Hamamatsu-city (November 22), Hokkaido (November 25), Shiga Prefecture (November 27) and Fukuoka Prefecture (November 29).



Exhibition corner

### 3 Other efforts

Various efforts were made around the Crime Victims’ Week. Forums or lectures were conducted and posters were made and distributed by the prefectures and concerned organizations. The Cabinet Office also made posters and distributed them. Various efforts for publicity and enlightenment will be continued to be made after 2008.

## Social support that transforms sadness to hope

