

## Special Edition: Formulation of the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims

The Basic Act on Crime Victims (hereinafter referred to as “The Basic Act”) stipulates that the government must establish a basic plan concerning the measures for crime victims, in order to promote the measures for crime victims comprehensively and systematically (Article 8 (1) of the Basic Act). Based on this, the first basic plan for crime victims (hereinafter referred to as “the First Basic Plan”) was formulated in December 2005 (decided on December 27, 2005 by the Cabinet), and then the second basic plan for crime victims (hereinafter

referred to as “the Second Basic Plan”) was formulated in March 2011 (decided on March 25, 2011 by the Cabinet).

Because the Second Basic Plan ended at the end of FY 2015, the third basic plan for crime victims (hereinafter referred to as “the Third Basic Plan”) was formulated to cover five years from April 1, 2016 to the end of FY 2020 (decided on April 1, 2016 by the Cabinet).

This special edition will explain the process of formulation and the outline of the Third Basic Plan.

### Section 1

## Process of Formulation of the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims

### 1

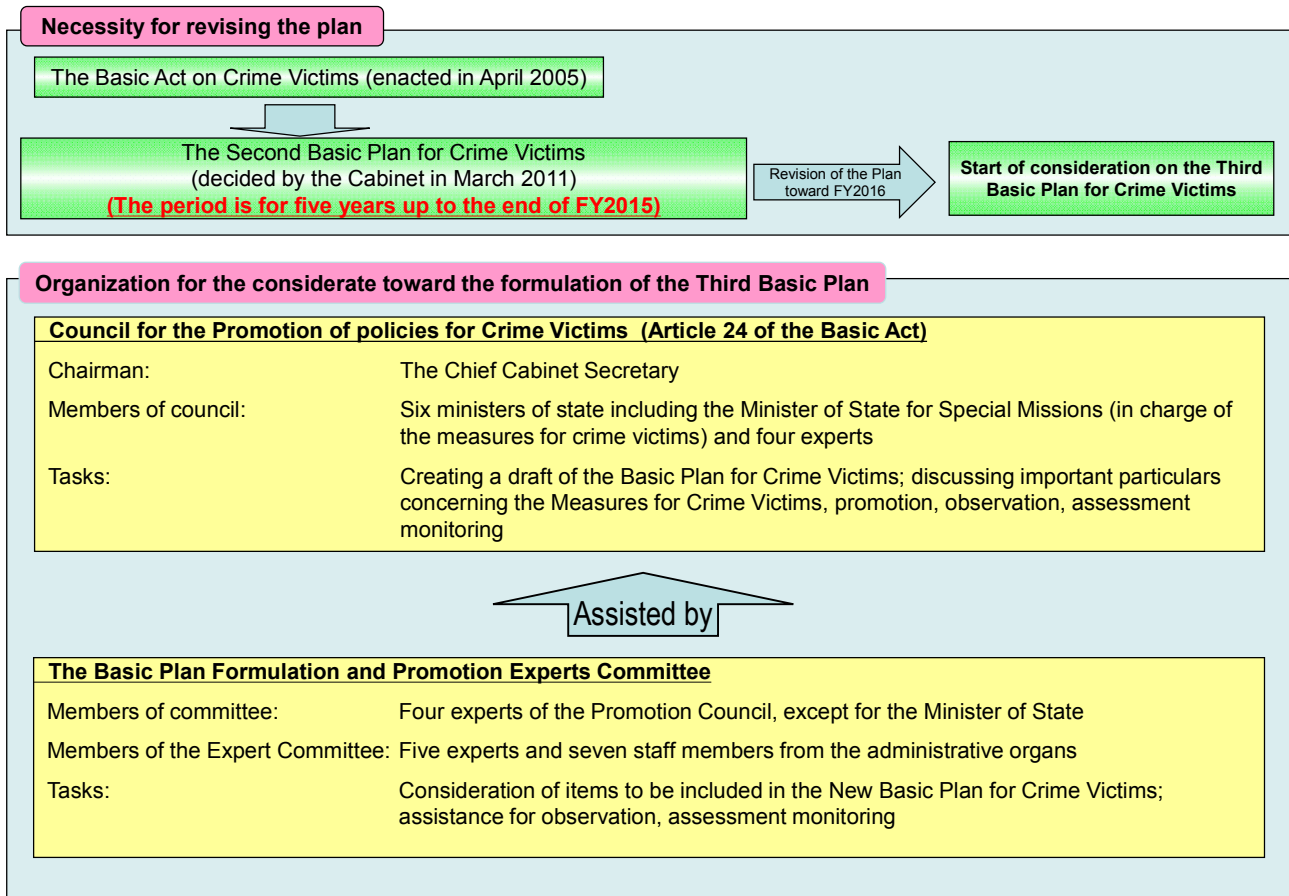
#### Framework of Consideration toward Formulation

The Basic Act stipulates that the prime minister must seek a cabinet decision on a draft of the Basic Plan for Crime Victims (Article 8 (3) of the Basic Act), and that the draft must be prepared by the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, a special organization in the Cabinet Office, (hereinafter referred to as “the Promotion Council”) (Article 24 (2) (i) of the Basic Act). The Promotion Council is also supposed to observe and assess the implementation status of the measures for crime victims (Article 24 (2) (ii) of the Basic Act). In accordance with the provision that “to hold the Basic Plan Formulation and Promotion

Experts Committee” (decided on February 15, 2010 by the Promotion Council), “the Basic Plan Formulation and Promotion Experts Committee” (hereinafter referred to as “the Experts Committee”) was held under the Promotion Council. In the Experts Committee, a practical review toward the formulation of the Third Basic Plan was made and new items were incorporated to assist the assessment of the implementation status of the measures for crime victims.

The Third Basic Plan was established under the framework as described above.

**Fig. 1-1 Framework of the consideration toward the formulation of the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims**



**2**

**Solicitation Requests and Opinions to Review the Second Basic Plan for Crime Victims**

The Basic Act stipulates the State reflect the Crime Victims' opinions in the Measures for Crime Victims and secure transparency during the process of establishing these measures, in order to contribute to the proper establishment and implementation. (Article 23 of the Basic Act). Therefore, to formulate the Third Basic Plan, the government called for opinions and requests widely

from the public, crime victims and their supporters as well to review the Second Basic Plan. The opinions and requests were collected through the Internet/mails and hearings directly from private entities supporting crime victims and crime victims' groups, for which 70 persons and 56 groups provided 350 opinions and requests.

**Fig.1-2 Solicitation of requests and opinions**

- Solicitation for requests and opinions from the public, crime victims, and their supporter to review The Second Basic Plan for Crime Victims
  - Solicitation for requests and opinions  
From August to September 2014 through mails or the Cabinet Office’s website
  - Hearings about requests and opinions  
Hearings from private entities supporting crime victims and crime victims’ groups  
September 29, 30 and October 1, 2014 in Tokyo  
October 10, 2014 in Osaka  
⇒ **70 persons and 56 groups sent about 350 requests and opinions**

- \*Examples of requests and opinions\*
- Recruiting and fostering support coordinators working at the comprehensive response desk in local governments
  - Utilizing life support professionals in local governments
  - Implementing a “Crime Victim Support Reinforcement Month” project
  - Starting a large “National Movement” in cooperation with the states, local governments, companies, and various entities
  - Providing information and support for crime victims who hesitate to report to the police
  - Support for child victims and their families
  - Helping crime victims relocate to public housing or private housing
  - Financial aid to private entities
  - PRs of private entities’ activity

Consideration at the Basic Plan Formulation and Promotion Experts Committee

### 3 Assessment of implementation status of the Second Basic Plan for Crime Victims

In addition to the above, insufficient matters of the Second Basic Plan to be improved were clarified and examined toward the formulation of the Third Basic Plan.

The assessment of the implementation status revealed five priorities: (1) efforts to recover the victim’s damages and to provide them with economic support, (2) efforts for the victims to recover from or to prevent mental and/or physical damage, (3) efforts to broaden the opportunity for victims to participate in criminal procedures, (4) efforts to Improve the system to support crime victims, and (5) efforts to foster the understanding among citizens and to earn their consideration and cooperation. And other issues which had not been achieved were pointed out as the future challenges. Regarding economic support for crime victims who suffered abroad, the measures were supposed to be proceeded by cooperating with the ruling party in the “To promote the measures based on the

proposals made in consultation meeting on the feasible expansion of the Benefit Systems for Crime Victims and/or establishment of a new compensation system” (decided on March 26, 2014 by the Promotion Council). However, this had not been carried out, for which more efforts would be needed. Regarding public funds to cover the costs of psychotherapies including counseling, “The report on a policy serving the recovery from mental damage in crime victims” (made in the seminar on a policy serving the recovery from mental trauma in crime victims on April 2, 2015) , which included nationwide evolvement under the government’s assistance and involvement, was summarized, and the proposals of the report were to be realized to improve the situation. However, this was considered that a budget would be needed to early realize the proposals.

As a conclusion of the overall assessment of the Second Basic Plan, although some concrete measures were steadily carried out and certain results were achieved, several future challenges

emerged, e.g., reinforcing medium- and long-term support and reviewing support for victims whose needs are difficult to grasp.

**Fig. 1-3 Assessment of implementation status of The Second Basic Plan <summary>**

### **Assessment of implementation status of the Second Basic Plan for Crime Victims (decided by the Promotion Council on November 18, 2015)**



**As a whole, the Plan was steadily promoted and achieved certain results.**

- The Benefit System for Crime Victims has been expanded
- The Victim Participation System has been expanded

#### **Items pointed out as future challenges**

- Enhancement of support, including medium- and long-term support
- Review on support for victims whose damage tend to be hidden, and difficult to grasp their needs

## **4 Consideration toward Formulation**

Based on the opinions and requests and the assessment of the implementation of the Second Basic Plan, several issues were pointed out toward the formulation of the Third Basic Plan.

#### **Major key points of the Second Basic Plan to be reviewed**

1. Promotion and improvement of crime victims support by the local governments
2. Raising momentum to support crime victims
3. Support for crime victims whose damage tends to be hidden.
4. Professional treatment for child victims at government expense
5. Medium- and long-term support for crime victims
6. Securing crime victims' safety and peace of mind
7. Promotion of private support groups' activity
8. Fulfillment of offender's liability of compensation for damage

Individual requests and opinions to review the

Second Basic Plan and how to deal with each of them were examined by the Experts Committee. The support for sexual crime and domestic violence victims, which was also an agenda on the formulation of the Fourth Basic Plan for Gender Equality, was examined in the Specialist Committee on Violence Against Women, in order to coordinate the Third Basic Plan with the Fourth Basic Plan for Gender Equality.

Thus, after the active discussions carried out monthly over nine times from January to September 2015 in the Experts Committee, the essential part of the draft of the Third Basic Plan was summarized and decided in the Promotion Council on November 18, 2015. Regarding this outline, public comments collected from November 19 to December 10 ran to 377 comments (excluding the same opinion) from 62 individuals and 28 groups, including local governments, private entities supporting crime victims and crime victims' groups.

Based on the comments, the Experts Committee held on January 2016 modified and finalized the measures for the outline of the Third Basic Plan,

and the draft was confirmed on March 30, 2016 by the Promotion Council. Then the Third Basic Plan was decided on April 1, 2016 by the Cabinet.

Basic Plan Formulation and Promotion Experts Committee



Fig. 1-4 Members of the Promotion Council and the Expert Committee (as of the end of March 2016)

Promotion Council		Experts Committee		
Cabinet Ministers	Yoshihide Suga	Chief Cabinet Secretary	Cabinet Office	Head of the Crime-Victim-Measures Promotion Office
	Katsunobu Kato	Minister of State for Special Missions	National Police Agency	Minister's Secretariat
	Taro Kono	National Public Safety Commission Chairman	Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	Minister's Secretariat
	Sanae Takaichi	Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications	Ministry of Justice	Minister's Secretariat
	Mitsuhide Iwaki	Minister of Justice	Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	Director-General for Policy Coordination, Minister's Secretariat
	Yoshihisa Shiozaki	Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	Director-General for Policy Planning (in charge of Social Security)
	Keiichi Ishii	Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	Policy Bureau Deputy Director-General
Experts	Akira Segawa	Professor of the Law Department, Doshisha University	Nozomu Asukai	Deputy Hospital Director, Aoki Hospital, Medical Corporation Aoyamakai
	Satomi Nakajima	Section Chief Section of Crime Victim's Mental Health, Department of Adult Mental Health, National Institute of Mental Health, National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry	Fujie Ito	Professor of the Department of Social Services, Faculty of Human Sciences, Sophia University
	Eriko Nakasone	Director and Chief of Bureau, Niigata Victim Support Center	Toshihiro Kawaide	Professor of the University of Tokyo, Graduate Schools for Law and Politics
	Hiroshi Moriyama	Lawyer	Takayuki Shiibashi	Professor of Chuo Law School Chuo University Graduate School of Law
			Tamotsu Watanabe	A member of the crime victim's bereaved family

※ The Basic Plan Promotion Expert Committee meeting consists of the experts of the Promotion Council and the Experts Committee. [The part surrounded by a blue line]



Fig. 1-5 Formulation Process of the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims

2014	
August to September	Public requests and opinions were solicited to review the Second Basic Plan
September to October	Hearings about the requests and opinions from private entities supporting crime victims and crime victims' groups were held in Tokyo and Osaka
2015	
January 26	The 14th Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Grasp of foreign countries' status of crime victim supports
February 17	The 15th Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Discussion on the assessment of the implementation status of the Second Basic Plan • Discussion on the key points of the review of the Second Basic Plan • Summary of requests and opinions on the review of the Second Basic Plan
March 16	The 16th Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Discussion on the key points (1) Promotion and improvement of crime victim support by the local governments (2) Raising momentum to support crime victims
April 28	The 17th Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Discussion on the key points (3) Support for crime victims whose damage tend to be hidden (4) Professional treatment for child victims at government expense (5) A medium- and long-term support for crime victims
May 26	The 18th Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Discussion on the key points (6) Securing crime victims' safety and peace of mind (7) Promoting private support groups' activity (8) Fulfillment of offender's liability of compensation for damages
June 30	The 19th Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Discussion on how to meet the request that "the relevant ministries/agencies should discuss and submit a draft plan" • Discussion on how to meet the request that "the Basic Plan should be formulated in light of the review of the Basic Plan for Gender Equality"
July 27	The 20th Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Re-discussion on how to meet the request that "the relevant ministries/agencies should discuss and submit a draft of plan" • Discussion on how to meet the request that "the items picked up in the summary of requests should be discussed as key points"
August 24	The 21st Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Discussion on the essential part of the Third Basic Plan
September 29	The 22nd Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Discussion on the assessment of the implementation status of the Second Basic Plan • Discussion on the draft of the essential parts of the Third Basic Plan
November 18	The 12th Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims meeting • Decision on the assessment of the implementation status of the Second Basic Plan • Decision on the essential part of the draft of the Third Basic Plan
November to December	Public comments on the essential part of the Third Basic Plan
2016	
January 26	The 24th Basic Plan Formulation Promotion Experts Committee meeting • Discussion on how to respond to the public comments • Discussion on the draft of the Third Basic Plan
March 30	The 13th Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims meeting • Decision on the draft of the Third Basic Plan
April 1	The Third Basic Plan was decided by the Cabinet.

## Section 2 Outline of the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims

### 1 Key points of the Third Basic Plan for crime victims

As with the First and Second Basic Plans, the Third Basic Plan includes: 1) “four fundamental principles,” which show the direction and viewpoints to be put into practice by the relevant agencies in charge of the measures for crime victims; 2) “five priorities,” which point out general issues; and 3) “Systems for promotion” to be implemented effectively and efficiently based on the measures for crime victims.

The sub-items under the above are not so much different from the Second Basic Plan, but the contents include a new direction and viewpoints as shown by the Experts Committee.

Taking an example, a woman victim from sexual crime does not want to be known by others due to a sense of shame and remorse, and will not report the damage because taking the offender to the court is difficult due to the relationship with the offender, thus this type of damage tends to be hidden.

Therefore, efforts are being made to promote PRs and enlightenment about the situation of women victims from a sexual crime and to improve the environment where they can consult easily. Further, the Experts Committee pointed out that men victims from sexual crime and children victims from abuse also tend to hide damage.

Article 2 (2) of the Basic Act states that “Crime Victims” are persons who were damaged by Crimes and their family or their bereaved family. Children, whose brother or sister damaged by Crimes, are included in “Crime Victims,” and deemed candidates to be supported under the First and Second Basic Plans. The Experts Committee pointed out that support for them was not sufficient. Based on these situations, the Third Basic Plan defines concrete measures in “the fundamental principles” that appropriate support should be

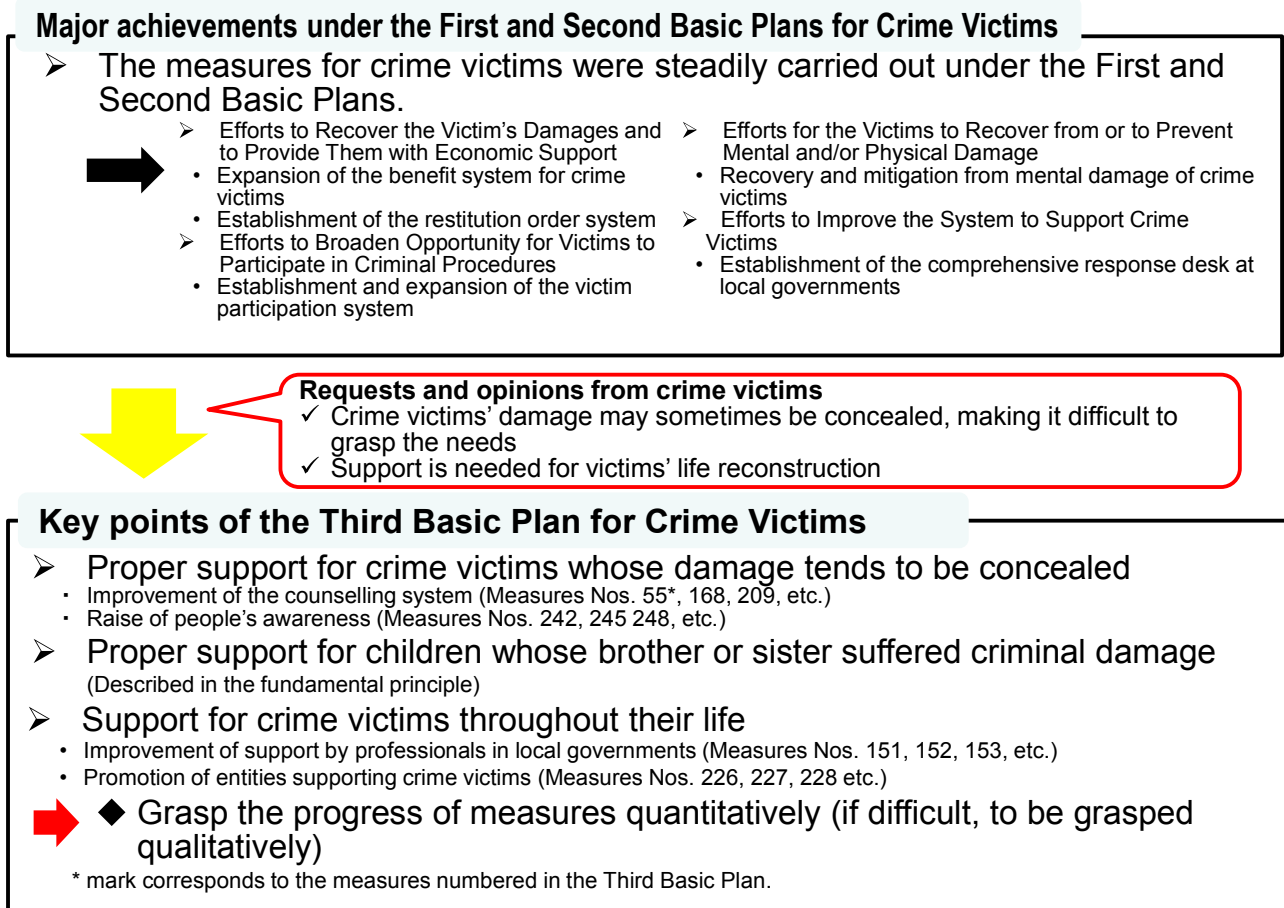
provided for victims, who suffered damage from sexual crime or child abuse but cannot raise voices and hide it. Also the Plan states that proper assistance should be provided for children who are not directly victimized but may be affected mentally and physically by their brother’s or sister’s victimization.

As a basic principle, the Basic Act also stipulates that Crime Victims may receive necessary support continuously from the time they receive harm until they restore their normal life again (Article 3 (3) of the Basic Act). So far, crime victims have properly been supported when needed and where needed, even after the system and the responsible organization changed. In addition, to help crime victims reconstruct livelihood, the Experts Committee pointed out that the system should be improved so that victims can receive finely tuned support from local governments and private entities for a medium- and long-term according to their situations.

Based on this suggestion, the Third Basic Plan states that local governments must construct a seamless system together with private entities supporting crime victims to provide crime victims with overall support for life. Even though such support has properly been made, if citizens do not recognize the importance, it is difficult to properly protect victims, so the Experts Committee emphasized the necessity of dissemination of activity by state, local governments and private entities supporting crime victims.

To ensure that the Third Basic Plan can steadily be carried out, the Experts Committee suggested that the progress of measures be checked quantitatively; if it is difficult, qualitatively as much as possible.

Fig. 1-6 Key Points of the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims



## 2 Specific measures to address the priorities

The Third Basic Plan focuses on five priorities under the four fundamental principles, and lists 261 concrete measures (including re-listed items). Under the First and Second Basic Plans, the measures for crime victims were steadily carried out through: expansion of the benefit system for crime victims; establishment of the victim participation system and the restitution order system; and efforts for victims to recover and mitigate from mental damage.

However, because the First and Second Basic Plans had not resolved all problems of crime victims, a lot of requests and opinions were sent by crime victims and private entities supporting crime victims. Therefore, based on such opinions and requests, the Third Basic Plan includes new measures and others that should be addressed while following up the Second Basic Plan.

The main measures in the Third Basic Plan are stated and explained below:

The words in [ ] show the responsible government department/agency and the figure in ( ) shows the

measures' number.

### 1. Efforts to Recover the Victim's Damages and to Provide them with Economic Support

#### (1) Investigation on fulfillment of offender's liability of compensation for damages

The National Police Agency shall, in cooperation with the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, investigate the situation that crime victims have not been compensated for damages, even if they have obtained the title of debt, for which necessary measures shall be considered. [National Police Agency] (11)

#### (2) Review of the Benefit System for Crime Victims

Taking into consideration the operational status of the Benefit System for Crime Victims, which have been expanded since 2008, the National Police Agency shall address the issue of the payment period of the serious injury or sickness benefit, in accordance with "The consultation meeting



on the feasible expansion of the Benefit System for Crime Victims and/or establishment of a new compensation system,” and shall investigate the reality of the situation and other public benefit systems within one year on the matter of payment method of the benefit for victims, without imposing much burden of procedures, the benefit for young victims and the benefit for relatives who suffered damage from a crime caused among them. Based on the results of it, necessary measures shall be considered and carried out. [National Police Agency] (12)

**(3) Reducing costs burden of psychotherapies including counselling**

In accordance with “The report on a policy serving the recovery from mental damage in crime victims,”<sup>\*1</sup> which was summarized in “The seminar on a policy serving the recovery from mental trauma in crime victims,” the National Police Agency shall guide the prefectural police departments to allocate counselors certified as a clinical psychologist in the police. Also in accordance with the report, the National Police Agency and the prefectural police departments shall publicize its system while developing the public expense system for counseling cost nationwide. [National Police Agency] (15)

**(4) Utilization of residual property after payment made by financial institutions to victims**

Under the Residual Property<sup>\*2</sup> Project implemented since FY 2013, the Financial Services Agency and the Ministry of Finance shall change the scholarship for children whose parent becomes a victim from the lending system to the benefit system, and increase the benefits for crime victim support groups to add the expenses for nurturing counsellors.

They shall offer such scholarship and recruit such counsellors within FY 2016. [The Financial Services Agency, Ministry of Finance, and National Police Agency] (18)

**2. Efforts for the Victims to Recover from or to Prevent Mental and/or Physical Damage**

**(1) Improvement of school counselling system for victimized boys**

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology shall deploy school counsellors/school social workers to counsel school children, and train them to improve their quality so that they can provide proper advice for children victims. At least by FY 2019, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology shall allocate a school counsellor to every public elementary/middle school and a school social worker to every public middle school district, in order to improve the educational counselling system. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (55)

**(2) Consideration when questioning a victimized child**

The Ministry of Justice, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare shall promote effort the representatives of the Public Prosecutors Office, Police, and Child Guidance Center to discuss each other in advance when questioning a victimized child, so that they take a due care of the place, frequency, and method for questioning. [Ministry of Justice, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (110)

**3. Efforts to Broaden the Opportunity for Victims to Participate in Criminal Procedures**

**(1) Improvement of communication between a crime victim and a prosecutor**

The Ministry of Justice shall promote effort a prosecutor to explain to a crime victim about the process and results of pretrial procedures at proper time according to victim’s desire; to convey to the court about victim’s desire to attend the trial as well as about victim participants’ desire to sit in the pretrial procedures if approved; and to communicate well with a crime victim about the date of trial and so on. [Ministry of Justice] (121)

**(2) Enough information provision about criminal procedures and appropriate explanation to the bereaved family about judicial autopsy**

The National Policy Agency and the Ministry of Justice shall jointly take a due care when explaining to a bereaved family about an

<sup>\*1</sup> A report summarized in April 2015 by “the seminar on a policy serving the recovery from mental trauma in crime victims”. The seminar consisting of six experts had been held several times since March 2014 in the National Policy Agency.

<sup>\*2</sup> Residual property, which was not returned to victims after going through the remedy for victims under the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Act on Damage Recovery Benefit Distributed from Funds in Bank (hereinafter referred to as “Criminal Accounts Damage Recovery Act”), and accordingly paid to the Deposit Insurance Corporation of Japan.

inquest and judicial autopsy, by distributing pamphlets and so on. The Ministry of Justice, in cooperation with the National Police Agency and a forensic medicine-related institution, shall explain with care to make a bereaved family understand that the organs dissected by a judicial autopsy institution may be preserved for a medium- and long-term. Also the National Police Agency and the Ministry of Justice, in coordination with a forensic medicine-related institution, shall consider proper procedures to return the organs of the dead to the bereaved family. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (131)

#### 4. Efforts to Improve the System of Support Crime Victims

##### (1) Improvement of local governments' comprehensive response desk

The National Police Agency shall request local governments to improve a comprehensive response desk and to offer useful information about progressive and dedicated support cases to crime victims, by holding a meeting of prefectural/ordinance-designated cities' crime victim policy division secretariats; training the staff; and distributing "e-mail newsletters on the measures for crime victims." Also, the Agency shall request the ward offices in the ordinance-designated cities to improve the response desk to respond properly to crime victims by considering their feelings. [National Police Agency] (151)

##### (2) Employment of professionals in local governments and reinforcement of linkage and cooperation with them

The National Police Agency shall request local governments to employ professionals, including social workers, psychiatric social workers and clinical psychologists, to help crime victims' living, as well as to strengthen the linkage and cooperation between the comprehensive response desk and concerned institutions/groups, so that crime victims can get early counselling from professionals. [National Police Agency] (152)

##### (3) Improvement of counseling system in the police

○ The police shall accept consultations from sexual crime victims or juveniles, regardless of their residence or anonymity, through the nationwide exclusive consultation telephone "#9110" or at the

consultation desk; and shall, according to victim's requests, utilize information from the institutions/groups networked in the Liaison Conference for Victim Support in local governments or police stations. Also, In order to detect those crimes that would likely not to be reported by victims thus tend to remain undiscovered and to apprehend such offenders at earliest stage possible, the police shall make efforts on proper operation of the "Anonymous-report Hot Line," which accepts anonymous calls about Boryokudan-related crimes, juvenile welfare crimes, child abuse cases, human trafficking crimes, etc., and reward the informant with information fees according to the degree of contribution to the apprehension. In addition, the police shall respond to consultations from victims of traffic accidents, explain the outline of the Insurance claim/claim for damages system, and introduce victims to various kinds of consultation desks. When a victim from a traffic-death-related accident asks the date of offender questioning and/or the administrative disposition on the offender, the police shall reply through the Administrative Disposition Division. [National Police Agency] (168)

○ The police shall take an appropriate step for counselling: for instance, when a sexual crime victim wants to consult female staff, female staff should respond, or vice versa, and when such a staff member is off duty, another person on duty should respond properly and hand over to a suitable member later. [National Police Agency] (169)

##### (4) Making the crime victim consultation desk known to people and improving training systems

The Ministry of Justice shall publicize the human rights counseling and the system of relief activities of human rights violation cases run by the human rights . The Ministry shall also inform the public about the effort, purpose and activity of the human rights bodies, and the hotlines, i.e., "Children's Rights Hotline," "Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters," "Women's Rights Hotline," and "human rights counseling service on the Internet." In addition, the Ministry shall enhance the training system for human rights counseling, whether for crime victims or others, in order to respond properly to people

who want to receive counselling. Also the Ministry shall train the newly appointed Human Rights Volunteers, the role of which has been consigned by the Minister of Justice, so that they can respond properly to all human rights problems, including those of crime victims. [Ministry of Justice] (182)

**(5) Assistance for private entities supporting crime**

The National Police Agency shall assist private entities supporting crime to hold symposiums, if the Agency agree with the purpose and the significant ripple effect. Such symposiums should be known to local governments and public organizations so as to help private entities supporting crime, through PRs using various media including SNS (the Social Networking Service). The Agency shall also distribute “e-mail newsletters on the measures for crime victims,” which are distributed only to Ministries/Agencies and local governments, to private entities supporting crime if they want to get, and provide them with information on new systems and efforts made by relevant Ministries/Agencies and other entities. Furthermore, the Agency shall call for local governments to cooperate with entities supporting crime to promote seamless support in the regions. [National Police Agency] (227)

**5. Efforts to Foster the Understanding among Citizens and to Earn Their Consideration and Cooperation**

**(1) Effective enlightenment and PRs to people**

To heighten public concerns about crime

victims’ reality, the National Police Agency shall grasp the degree of people’s awareness, and do, in cooperation with schools and private companies, effective PRs and enlightenment about the importance of support for victims. To provide people with opportunities to consider support for crime victims, the Agency shall invite crime-victim-support slogans publicly and request private companies to cooperate with effective PRs and enlightenment. [National Police Agency] (241)

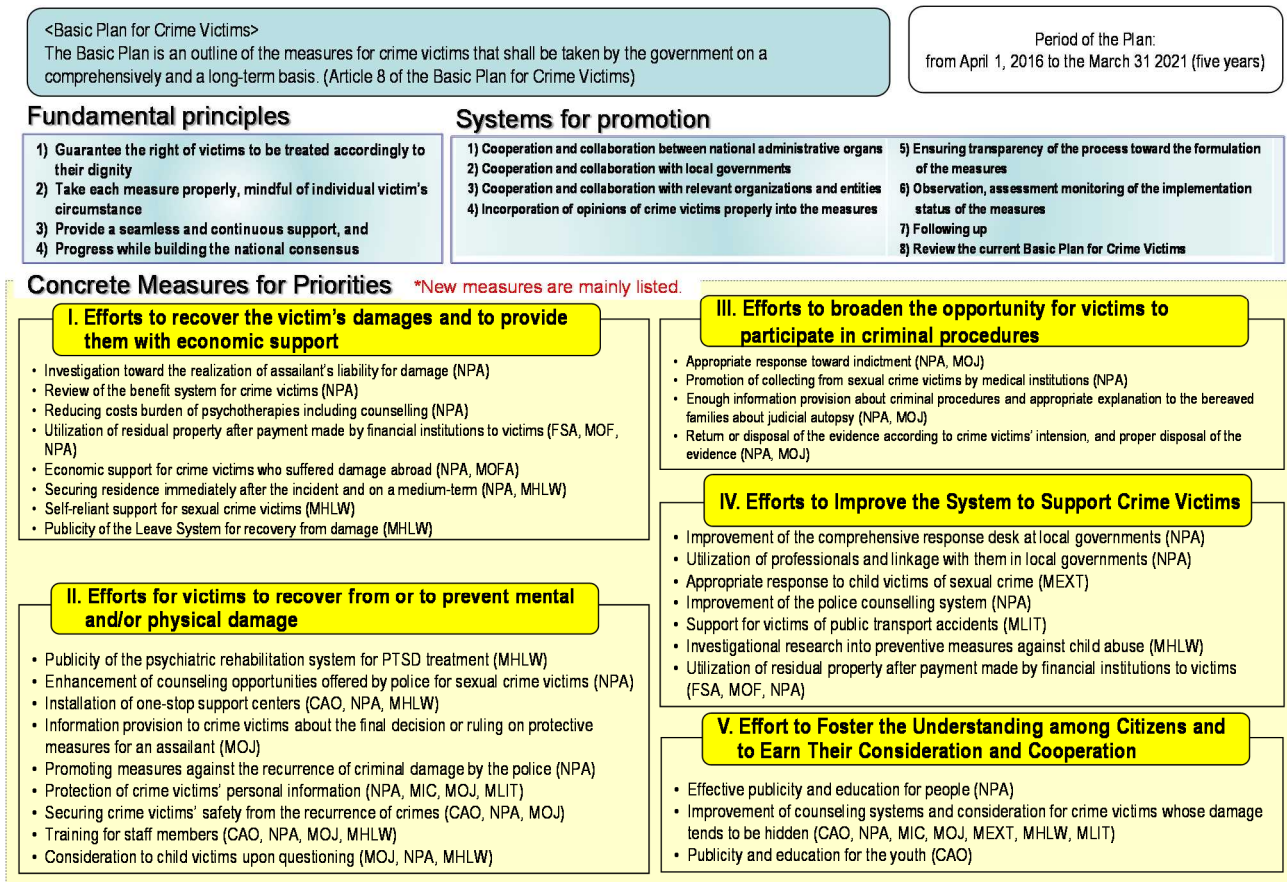
**(2) Improvement of counseling systems and consideration for crime victims whose damage tends to be hidden**

To respond to consultations from victims of sexual crimes and victimized children whose damage tends to be hidden, each Ministry and Agency shall improve the counseling systems, make people understand victims’ reality by holding workshops and symposiums occasionally, and heighten awareness and motivation to support victims by the whole society. [Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (242)

**(3) PRs and enlightenment to the youth**

The Cabinet Office shall promote preventive education on violence for the youth by distributing pamphlets in order not to either be victim or perpetrator. [Cabinet Office] (244)

Fig. 1-7 Outline of the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims



- ※ CAO(Cabinet Office)
- NPA (National Police Agency)
- FSA (Financial Services Agency)
- MIC (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)
- MOJ (Ministry of Justice)
- MOFA (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)
- MOF (Ministry of Finance Japan)
- MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and technology)
- MHLW (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- MLIT (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)

## Section 3

# Transfer of Jurisdiction over the Measures for Crime Victims

In April 2016, partial amendments of the National Government Organization Act, which strengthen the functionality of important government's policies came into force, and accordingly the Creation and promotion of the Basic Plan for Crime Victims were transferred from the Cabinet Office to the National Public Safety Commission (National Police Agency).

This is because the National Public Safety Commission (National Police Agency) is able to achieve more meticulous tasks for various measures

with closely related to crime victims.

The Third Basic Plan, formulated on the basis of the First and Second Basic Plans, aims to construct a society where crime victims' rights and interests can better be protected.

Under the Third Basic Plan, the National Public Safety Commission (National Police Agency) is making more efforts to implement the measures for crime victims in cooperation with the relevant Ministries/Agencies, local governments, related institutions, and private entities.

Fig 1-8 Promotion System for Measures for Crime Victims - April 2016 onwards-

