

Action Plan to Create A Crime-Resistant Society

To Re-establish Japan as “The Safest Country in the World”
(Tentative Translation)

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Introduction: Establishment of the “Action Plan to Create A Crime-Resistant Society”

1. Continual Increase of Crimes and Public Anxiety

Public safety is being threatened today. Although the number of crimes was about 1.4 million per year for a long time after the end of World War II, it has been increasing during the last decade. It recorded the highest number of about 2.85 million in 2002, the seventh consecutive year to break the previous year's record. On the other hand, the ratio of arrests to crimes was the lowest ever. This year, these trends are starting to reverse, but the situation still remains serious.

Public safety has been aggravated especially due to a sharp increase in the number of street crimes and break-in offenses; frequent occurrence of atrocious juvenile crimes; and the brutality of crimes committed by organized groups and nationwide spread of crimes committed by foreigners. In addition, the menace of organized crime is growing. For example, domestic and foreign crime syndicates are active behind drug crimes, firearms crimes and crimes committed by foreigners.

A research institute's survey indicates that the ratio of people who have anxiety about crimes increased from 26% to 41% during the five years from 1997 to 2002. The Cabinet Office's survey on people living in large and midsize cities indicates that responding to the question as to what should be improved for a better environment for living, the number of those who answered public safety was the second largest after medical care and welfare. The people's sense of safety has been worsening because the number of people who have experienced daytime burglary or purse snatching has increased.

Although it is difficult to identify the causes, it seems that public safety is threatened by changes in the social environment, decrease in people's sense of compliance to laws, the influence of internationalization and economic conditions.

2. Three Perspectives toward Restoring Public Safety

Taking into consideration of the above situations, the Cabinet held a Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures against Crimes in September 2003 and decided to establish the action plan to reestablish public safety. In the meeting, the ministers confirmed three important perspectives for the reestablishment of public safety.

The first perspective is supporting citizens in crime prevention activities. Public safety cannot be maintained only by police patrol and crime control, but each and every person's voluntary efforts are also needed to secure safe living. An increasing number of community members are showing efforts to stop the increase of crimes. It is important to lead those people who wish to do something for the public safety to real actions. We hope that each person will increase his or her awareness of crime prevention in light of self-defense and that the people and the administrative agencies will cooperate with each other. This requires the government's support, such as supply of information and campaigns for better understanding of crime prevention equipment.

The second perspective is developing a secure social establishment against crime. In the past, communities in Japan frequently held joint events, such as seasonal festivals and get-together meetings among neighboring associations, and members communicated more closely with each other. They called out to people who looked unfamiliar and spontaneously taught children what was right and wrong. They functioned as a social environment in preventing crime and juvenile delinquency. It is necessary to restore this preventive function by regaining community and family solidarity, which has weakened due to urbanization and the trend toward the nuclear family. In addition, the design of roads, parks and buildings and attitudes toward foreigners will be important factors for crime prevention. In order to establish a crime-resistant environment, the government should plan anti-crime measures from various angles.

The "broken window" theory was proposed in the U.S. to explain how a collapse of order occurs in a community. If a broken window is left as it is, another window will be broken (or it will bring about another violation), and the whole building and the whole community will be ruined in the end. Thus, if a small violation is ignored, a sense of disorder will grow; resulting in the great decline of. To restore public safety, New York City has not overlooked small violations and thoroughly carries out activities including removal of graffiti in the subways. These are only a part of the creation of a crime-resistant social environment. However, because New York City has made these efforts, the crime situation in the city has improved drastically.

The third perspective is implementing countermeasures against crime including border control." In addition to the two above-mentioned perspectives, it is also important for each administrative agency to promote various anticrime measures, including crime prevention and control. It is extremely important for law enforcement agencies to cooperate with each other smoothly and use information effectively. To control active criminals and crime organizations, law enforcement divided into several organizations.

Although the agencies are stably promoting the cooperation by exchanging information and carrying out joint operations, they must cross the borders between government offices to fight against international or advanced crimes. Therefore, it is also necessary to consider creating a new framework for the cooperation. With regard to border control, it is especially important to cooperate closely with foreign organizations when fighting international criminals and crime organizations.

3. Five Priorities to Overcome the Current Crime Situation

From the three perspectives described above, the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime established the “ Action Plan to Create of Crime-Resistant Society” to remove the public anxiety about security, stop the increase of crimes and overcome the dangerous situation within the next five years. In the plan, we set five priorities to overcome current crime situation. We will stably carry out the measures described below, obtaining cooperation from people, the businesses and local governments. If necessary, we will reexamine the measures. As regards the world situation becoming more and more tense due to terrorism, we will entrust antiterrorism measures largely to the Emergency Anti-Terrorism Headquarters, and work in close cooperation with them.

The first of the five priorities is “to prevent familiar crimes threatening our public peace. An increasing number of people suffer not only property damage but also physical and mental damage from purse snatching, burglary theft and robbery. Therefore, we will promote measures for the following:

1. Regenerating social bonds and creating a safe and peaceful community
2. Promulgating products and methods effective for crime prevention
3. Protecting crime victims

We will also positively carry out the following measures:

- Supporting community members and volunteer groups who carry out voluntary activities for crime prevention
- Resolving the “empty police box (koban)” problem and reinforcement in general of the ‘koban or police box’ functions
- Creation and management of crime-resistant roads, parks and parking lots
- Diffusion of car theft prevention devices
- Encouraging support towards victims

The second priority is “the preventing of juvenile crimes by the community as a whole.” About 40% of criminals and about 70% of those involved in street crimes are juveniles. In addition, many serious crimes have been committed by juveniles recently, which has shaken the public. We all hope to

prevent juvenile crimes and nurture and foster juveniles to become responsible adults. Therefore, cooperating with the Headquarters for Promotion of the Cultivation of Youth, we will promote the following measures:

1. Responding to juvenile crimes strictly and promptly
2. Sound upbringing of juveniles to prevent delinquency
3. Strengthening cooperation between the related organizations concerned to protect juveniles from delinquency

Specifically, we will actively carry out the following measures:

- Reexamination of what probation for juvenile should be
- Examination of problems in juvenile laws, including application of them
- Strengthening of guidance activities to find and treat juvenile delinquents as early as possible.
- Provision of community education and places for juvenile activities
- Promotion of juvenile support teams in cooperation with the relevant organizations concerned

The third priority is “the controlling of transnational menaces.”

The number of crimes committed by foreigner—especially, break-in robbery and other atrocious crimes – has been increasing. Recently more foreigners committed crimes with the cooperation of Japanese gangs. The number of foreigners illegally staying in Japan is estimated to be about 250,000. It is necessary to halve this number within five years so that people can live in peace. It is also necessary to wipe away unnecessary cautiousness toward the majority of foreigners who live in Japan legally and peacefully. Therefore, based on the results from the Headquarters for the Promotion of Measures Against Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) and Other Relative Issues, we will promote the following measures:

1. Implementing watch and control at the border
2. Implementing countermeasures against illegal entry and overstay
3. Strengthening investigation of crimes by foreigners
4. Strengthening cooperation with foreign agencies

Specifically, we will actively carry out the following measures:

- Prevention of illegal export of stolen cars
- Stricter examination of resident qualification during the entry procedure
- Strengthening of control of illegal visitors and improvement in the efficiency of the procedure for compulsory deportation
- Promotion of measures relating to accepting foreign students and trainees
- Request to the Chinese authorities for tighter control of compulsory deportees

The fourth priority is “protecting the economy and society from organized crime.”

People strongly demand eradication of organized crimes, which threaten their peaceful lives and the fairness of the economy and their society. Although organized crime groups must not be allowed to exist, they are still raising funds shrewdly to gain huge profits, and are deeply involved in drugs, firearms, illegal financing and illegal disposal of industrial waste. In addition, cybercrime has been increasing and becoming a new menace to society. Therefore, based on the results from the Headquarters for the Promotion of Measure to Prevent Drug Abuse and the Headquarters for the Promotion of Measures Against Firearms, we will promote the following measures:

1. Implementing countermeasures against organized crimes and Japanese gangs
2. Creating a society free from drug abuse and crimes using firearms
3. Implementing countermeasures against crimes committed by various crime groups
4. Implementing countermeasures against cybercrime

Mainly, we will focus on carrying out the following measures:

- Use and development of more effective methods for investigating organized crimes
- Promotion of measures for expelling organized crime groups and prevention of violence toward the administrative agencies and local governments
- Prevention of smuggling of drugs and firearms at borders
- Promotion of measures for eradicating illegal financing
- Earlier conclusion of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Convention on Cybercrime, and establishment of related laws

The fifth priority is “developing infrastructure for public safety.”

To promote the above-mentioned measures effectively, it is necessary to establish an infrastructure by enriching personnel and facilities, establishing related laws and promoting researches. Therefore, we will actively make efforts towards the following:

- Increasing the number of police officers, prosecutors and other necessary personnel
- Strengthening of the system, facilities and equipment for immigration control
- Promotion of research and development through cooperation among industry, university, and government and private contribution

- Reduction of congestion in prisons and other correctional institutions, and strengthening of correctional treatment
- Enrichment of rehabilitation services

We will explain these measures in detail later.

The realization of a society where the people can live safely and peacefully is the wish of all citizens and the most basic duty of the government. Safe society is a precondition of free living and free economic activities. Karl Wilhelm von Humboldt, a politician and scholar of human studies in Prussia, said, “No freedom without safety.” This means that without safety, people cannot improve their abilities; as a result they cannot enjoy the fruit borne thereafter. The people can freely carry out activities and develop society only if the government secures domestic safety for the people.

Taking a step toward the creation of a crime-resistant society, the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime hereby establishes the “Action Plan to Create A Crime-Resistant Society” to revive “Japan as the safest country in the world.”

I. Prevention of Crimes which are Committed in Familiar Places and Threaten Peaceful Life

1. Regeneration of Community Solidarity and Creation of Safe and Peaceful Communities

- (1) Support community members and volunteer groups who carry out voluntary activities for crime prevention

Encourage community members and volunteer groups to take part in voluntary activities for crime prevention, such as patrol, campaign activities advocating crime prevention, installation of streetlights, training of preventive skills and establishment of a network. To strengthen cooperation with related administrative agencies and give volunteers support, including provision of information of good practice and crime situation and budget for equipment and activities.

- (2) Nationwide sharing of best practice in voluntary activities for crime prevention

Collect best practices of various types of voluntary activities and diffuse them throughout Japan, including information about how such activities are smoothly carried out and how cooperation between the government and the private sector is established. By doing this, community members and

voluntary groups will be encouraged to begin voluntary activities for crime prevention, and enrich those activities further.

(3) Information on crimes and community safety provided for the residents

Provide such information as what sort of crimes are occurring in which places, based on the results of crime analysis, for each community as a unit so residents could feel at home with the results. By providing information concerning precautionary measures on crime prevention employing the geographical information system, in addition to employing various media such as websites, electronic mails, cellular phone mails and cable TV, we could stimulate voluntary activities toward crime prevention.

(4) Advocacy campaign for crime prevention which would raise citizen awareness towards crime prevention

By furthering the mutually intimate cooperation between those organizations and institutions involved with community safety activities through such means as the “nationwide campaign for community safety,” and further conducting patrol and crime prevention diagnostics as well as publicity activities for crime prevention, we can attempt to have our community safety activities infiltrate and establish themselves into society. Moreover, in order to build a safe and sound society with no crimes nor delinquencies, we promote the “campaign to make a better and safer society” as part of our crime prevention activities, along with our mobile lessons conducted by police officers and public relations officers in public prosecutors’ office for the purpose of deepening the citizens’ understanding of our crime situation as well as criminal and judiciary systems.

(5) Support for establishment of local ordinances for anticrime measures

When a municipality plans to make an ordinance for anticrime measures and crime prevention activities, government agencies that have technical knowledge will give proper advice and enforce the ordinance strictly.

(6) Promotion of crime prevention measures in cooperation with private businesses

Supply information about crime analysis to private businesses, which deal in crime prevention goods, such as locks, doors, glass, other building parts, emergency call systems, monitoring cameras and location systems. This will support the development of crime prevention goods. Encourage

counsels with the security equipment engineers when carrying out environmental design and crime prevention diagnosis.

- (7) Development and employment of security companies as the industry for community safety

Give examination and education to security guards to improve their technical knowledge and ability according to type of duty. In addition, promote the crime prevention patrol services by security guard companies by employing the emergence local employment special subsidy (fund) program.

- (8) Promotion of voluntary guard initiative by ordinary companies and facility managers

It is necessary to prevent crimes committed in large-scale event halls, high-rise buildings, underground shopping centers and other places where many people gather. For this purpose, companies and facility managers need to take necessary safety measures voluntarily, including installation of crime prevention equipment, placement of guards and checking of visitors' luggage.

- (9) Elimination of "vacant police boxes" and general reinforcement of police box functions

Increase the number of police officers stationed at a police box and reconsider the reallocation of the offices to solve the problem of "vacant police boxes," where the police officers are almost always absent. Reinforce the general police box functions by allocating police box counselors, police cars, an emergency call system, a device for forwarding a call at vacant police boxes and videophone.

- (10) Reinforcement of the street policing activities and establishing a society more aware of fighting against crime and disorder

Reinforce the police activities during times and in areas that crimes frequently occur. Do not overlook crime and disorder committed in public even when they are trivial. Create a society intolerant to these conducts with appropriate measures by the police as well as cooperation with local residents.

- (11) More focus on prosecution cases that have greater interest to the community

Strengthen cooperation between the prosecution and the investigating agencies (i.e.: police and Maritime Safety Agency), so that the prosecutor investigation and treatment of crimes would reflect the crime situation in the community. In addition, make efforts to provide enough evidence to obtain appropriate sentencing in view of the community crime situation.

- (12) Introduction of a system for identifying an emergency call from cellular phones

Cooperate with telecommunications service providers to introduce a location system using the Global Positioning System (GPS). This will enable the police to identify the location and rush to the scene promptly even when an emergency call is sent through a cellular phone. Promote the diffusion and improvement of a car navigation system which sends location information at the time of emergency. Moreover, promote the establishment of a system which controls traffic signals for the priority of emergency vehicles to shorten the time for arrival and prevent accidents due to emergency driving.

- (13) Enforcement of measures for protecting the community from arson, especially serial arson

Enforce measures against arson, especially serial arson, by publicity work concerning fire prevention. The Fire Defense Agency and the local fire department headquarters will cooperate to develop and manage the anti-arson equipment and operate them nationwide with the skills and expertise gathered from all over Japan.

- (14) Establishment and management of crime-resistant roads, parks and parking lots

Encourage to follow the “ Guideline for Improvement and Management of Public Facilities for Creating Crime-resistant Community, ” which was decided by the council of the government offices concerned in the creation of crime-resistant communities on July 24, 2003. By doing so, diffuse the method of creation and management of crime-resistant roads, parks, parking lots and other public facilities.

- (15) Installment and improvement of crime prevention lamps

There are some areas where residents feel anxiety that they may be involved in a crime because of dim lighting or an empty street. To relieve people from this anxiety in such areas, the installation of crime prevention

lamps, street emergency call systems (super security light) and emergency call systems for children will be promoted.

- (16) Protection of stores and offices which are likely to suffer from crime, especially financial institutions and convenience stores

Strengthen the crime prevention measures for the stores and offices, especially financial institutions and convenience stores, where crimes are likely to occur. Promote the installation of crime prevention equipment and provide thorough instructions to crime prevention managers and employees. Moreover, consider incentive systems for crime prevention measures.

- (17) Development and diffusion of crime-resistant building parts and equipment

Support companies' development of crime-resistant building parts and equipment and establish methods for evaluating and publishing the rate of crime resistance. Consider incentive systems, including financial support for installation of and exchange for those new parts and equipment.

- (18) Diffusion of crime-resistant houses and condominiums

Promote the supply of information on the crime prevention measures for houses and condominiums, including the "Guidelines for crime prevention in condominiums" and the "Guidelines for design of crime-resistant condominiums." Consider incentive systems for crime-resistant houses, including how to assess and indicate or express the performance level of crime resistance.

- (19) Promotion of safety in schools

Subsidize measures for securing children's safety at school, such as rearrangement of the classrooms for the lower grades and the administrative rooms, installation of equipment for crime prevention and the establishment of a network of communication with the police. Continuously promote school safety management using a crisis management manual, training of crime prevention and first aid, improvement in teachers' awareness and ability regarding safety measures. Moreover, thoroughly instruct teachers to secure children's safety when school facilities are open to the public.

2. Diffusion of Products and Systems Effective for Crime Prevention

- (1) Diffusion of devices for preventing car theft

Encourage the increase in the types of cars equipped with devices for preventing car theft, such as an immobilizer, ultimately aiming towards standardized equipment of these devices, claiming their necessity with reference to the user's opinions.

- (2) Strict examination and inspection in compliance with the Road Trucking Vehicle Law

To contribute to the prevention of car theft, strict examination on issuing certificates of registration based on the Road Trucking Vehicle Law is required. Reinforce the ability to deal with suspicious cases through reviews of inspection and registration.

- (3) Prevention of theft and misuse of license plates

Prevent theft and misuse of plates of cars by such ways as improving the official seal. Look into promoting new technologies which can disable cars with stolen number plates to start.

- (4) Development and use of the automatic car number reading system

Promote the install of the automatic car number reading system, which is highly useful for finding stolen cars or investigating crimes using cars. Also, to keep vehicles other than those being under police search from being subjected to the investigation, reinforced efforts shall be made so as not to issue an identical registration number in case the victim of a stolen license plate requests for a reissuance.

- (5) Promote common ownership of information regarding stolen cars

For the absolute prevention of illegal changes in ownership of stolen cars, data on stolen cars reported to police will be transferred to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport's car inspection and registration system. This will facilitate inspection of any possible forgeries upon renewal applications for car registration. Consider using municipal data on small-sized motorcycles for more effective crime investigation.

- (6) Prevention of motorcycle theft

Provide motorcycle manufacturers with information on motor vehicle theft to improve measures against destruction of the main switch (key) and further promote the equipage of immobilizers on to large-sized motorcycles. Promote campaigns advocating double locks and encourage users to apply

for crime-proof good rider registration with the cooperation of motorcycle shops.

(7) Prevention of bicycle theft and promotion of recovery of stolen bicycles

Improve the lock and install the improved lock as standard equipment to prevent bicycle theft. Encourage bicycle owners to register their bicycles, and provide information promptly to municipalities that remove illegally parked bicycles in order to make stolen bicycles easy to return to their owners.

(8) Promotion of preventive measures against vending machine related burglary

Vending machine burglaries are usually committed by destroying the machine using a wrecking bar. Encourage the use of crime-resistant vending machines equipped with stronger locks.

(9) Prevention of shoplifting

Cooperate with storeowners and other parties concerned in preventive measures against shoplifting and measures for initial treatment of shoplifter. Promote the development and diffusion of shoplifting prevention equipment that uses reliable IT technologies, such as IC tag.

(10) Prevention of forgery of credit cards, currency and official documents

Promote introduction of IC for credit cards, to make it harder to forge. Conventionally used magnetic cards will be protected by various checking systems and the cooperation among the industry, stores and card members with such measures as publicity and instruction towards members. Strengthen the cooperation among the industries concerned to create an environment disabling the use of forged currency, and promote preventive measures against forgery of various official documents and certificates.

(11) Prevention of cash withdrawal using stolen bankbooks

To prevent the withdrawal of cash using an illegally obtained bankbook, the conventional system in which customers are required to imprint their 'hanko' seal in their banknotes will be abolished so as to disable the copying by scanner when the bankbook is stolen.

(12) Prevention of illegal use of bank accounts

To prevent the opening of a bank account under a false name and the illegal buying and selling of bank accounts for criminal use, cooperation with financial institutions will be promoted towards taking appropriate measures, including suspension of bank accounts. In addition, other measures for preventing the illegal buying and selling of bank accounts will be considered.

(13) Thorough identification

To prevent the use of documents, telephone and financial services for crime under a false name, strict identification will be required when a government office is to issue a certificate, when a shop is to sell a prepaid cellular phone or when a financial institution is to make a transaction.

(14) Strict control of substances which can be used for crime

Prevent the theft, outflow and abuse of explosives, poisons, chemicals, biological agent and other dangerous substances which can be used for crime. For this purpose, supervision over the control and the compliance with the standards will be instructed to the persons who make, manage or convey them. In addition, the police will strictly control violations of the related laws.

(15) Countermeasures against obstruction of important radio communications

Obstruction of important radio communications has serious effects on the day-to-day life of people. Therefore, to promptly detect and eliminate the source of obstruction, radio wave monitoring facilities will be improved or renewed. In addition, illegal radio stations, a source of obstruction of important radio communications, will be strictly controlled.

3. Protection of Crime Victims

(1) Protecting victims during criminal procedures

The police will make efforts to protect victims during criminal procedures, including the gathering of information from victims and to prevent or ease secondary damages, with full considerations upon the mental state of mind of victims and the bereaved. To achieve this, the police will provide them with information, assign personnel to assist the victims through the proceedings and take into consideration the

appropriateness of facilities used for the gathering of information from victims. In addition, the police will research further avoidable measures to assist future victims, and strengthen the on-going measures.

(2) Promoting assistance towards victims

To deal with the financial loss, mental damage and other problems experienced by victims and the bereaved, the police will provide financial support through proper management of the legal system which provides benefits for them, and mental psychological support by establishing a counseling system. Moreover, to keep up with the various needs of the victims, supporters' networks and assist private organizations that support those victims will be established.

(3) Promotion of educational activities for the victims on crime damage

Improve training for officials who contact victims to deal properly with victims and the bereaved. In addition, promote publicity work to deepen the community's awareness of victims.

(4) Security of victims

Take proper measures, including maintaining close contact with victims, instructing the community on crime prevention and reinforcement of patrol in order to prevent victims from being affected again.

(5) Prevention of stalking and spousal violence

To eradicate violence to women and to respond to the demands of victims, the police will make every effort to deal strictly with stalking and spousal violence. The relevant agencies will cooperate to protect and support victims. In addition, to prevent the offender from discovering the victim's addresses, guidelines for restrictions on reading and copying of residence's cards will be established.

(6) Prevention of child abuse

To prevent child abuse, the police will provide parents with information, training and consultation about home education and childcare and establish a network of local organizations and residents to identify and deal with child abuse in a timely manner. If child abuse is identified, the network will protect and support the child, help the family to reunite and

strengthen the family's childcare abilities. The police will strictly investigate the case if necessary.

(7) Promoting crime prevention education in schools

Provide crime prevention workshops in school as part of the school curriculum for special activities or "comprehensive studies program". Instructors may be teachers, police officers and crime prevention volunteer groups. Children will learn how to predict and deal with dangerous situations to protect themselves and avoid being involved in a crime.

(8) Providing mental support to child victims

We will provide mental care to the victims, in cases such as the murder case at the Ikeda Elementary School attached to the Osaka Kyoiku University. Conduct comprehensive research concerning trauma recovery, moral education and the crisis management system at school, so as to share the results all over Japan.

II. Responsibility of the Society to Take Measures to Prevent Juvenile Crimes

1. Strict and Proper Treatment of Juvenile Crimes

(1) To establish system for preventing juvenile crimes

Establish and strengthen workforce of the police and the prosecutor's office for investigating juvenile crimes. Strengthen facilities and personnel as well as juvenile classification offices and detention homes to rehabilitate juvenile delinquents by taking necessary measures for their treatment.

(2) Strict and prompt investigation of juvenile crimes

Investigate juvenile crimes strictly and promptly. Sending juvenile delinquents to family courts as soon as possible may contribute to the restoration of juvenile's rehabilitation. In order for prompt investigation, streamline the procedure for making investigation documents. In addition, examine ways to cope with minor juvenile crimes in view of the health maturity of the juveniles.

(3) Reexamination of juvenile delinquency probation

Diversify and activate social participation activities by the juveniles on probation. Enrich the content of group treatment. Prioritize probation officers' commitment according to the degree of severity. Consider systematic measures for ensuring juvenile probationers' compliance with the ordered terms to facilitate more effective guidance.

(4) Improving treatment at juvenile reformatories

To enrich education in juvenile reformatories, which are expected to be highly effective for rehabilitation and the prevention of repeated offense, treatment will be conducted in accordance with the needs of juveniles. Improve the education, especially focusing on their understanding the state of mind of their victims and developing a sense of guilt and expiation.

(5) Clarifying the authority of police investigating cases committed by juveniles under 14

To solve the cases committed by juveniles under 14 and treat them properly, the amendment of the law that clarifies the police authority and procedure to investigate such cases as a precondition for trial will be considered.

(6) Examination of problems in provisions and application of juvenile laws

Besides the above-described measures, a legal system for letting juveniles reflect on their delinquency and rehabilitate themselves is required. Problems in the existing juvenile laws at each stage of investigation, trial, custody and reform will be examined and if necessary some measures will be taken.

2. Safe and Sound Nurturing of Juveniles to Prevent Juvenile Delinquency

(1) Reinforcing juvenile guidance activities to detect and cope with juvenile delinquency cases at an early stage

Such institutions as the juvenile guidance centers and juvenile support centers shall keep in close cooperation in order to encourage juvenile delinquents to reform themselves at the early stage of showing delinquent behavior and prevent them from actually committing a crime, and further reinforce street guidance activities with the support from families, schools and communities. In addition, strengthen the cooperation between the organizations concerned which are required to practice the above, enrich

and vitalize private volunteer groups, and establish a legal basis for guidance.

- (2) Promotion of measures against delinquent groups, such as motorcycle gangs

Prevent juveniles from participating in delinquent groups and dissolve these groups. Concerning motorcycle gangs in particular, their illegal behavior will be strictly controlled according to the “Agreement at the Council of Ministries for Measures against Motorcycle Gangs” (February 2001). Enforce comprehensive measures for advocacy toward expulsion of motorcycle gangs, improvement of road controls that deter reckless driving, and prevention of illegal remodeling of motorcycles.

- (3) Elimination of the influence of organized crime groups upon juveniles

Strengthen the control of organized criminal groups that damage wellbeing and welfare of juveniles (e.g., child prostitution, child pornography and drug abuse), forced participation in organized crime groups and obstruction in withdrawal from them. Publicly advocate the dangers of involvement with organized crime groups.

- (4) Prevention of midnight loitering and runaway from home

Juveniles who have run away from home or are loitering at midnight often use the restaurants, karaoke shops and manga cafes that are open all night. Request these restaurants and shops to take measures for preventing juveniles from using them at midnight. Apply related laws strictly to control some types of businesses that are hotbeds of juveniles that run away from home.

- (5) Elimination of harmful materials, such as books and advertising bills for adult entertainment

Promote measures for a clean environment through the removal of vending machines for harmful books and illegal advertisements (e.g. bills for adult entertainment), with the cooperation of related organizations, local residents and volunteer groups. For example, “promotion of a healthy environment” shall be prioritized in the “month for overcoming of juvenile delinquency” and the “month for development of sound and healthy youths.” Request shops and mass media to take measures for preventing juveniles from seeing publications that approve of or may trigger violence or sexual perversion.

(6) Restriction of measures against harmful contents on the Internet

Protect juveniles from harmful contents on the Internet through the following measures; measures against online dating sites; cooperation with private businesses to establish the framework of “content safety seal” (tentative name); innovation of filtering for cellular phones and PHS terminals; development of juvenile media literacy; and educational advocacy for juveniles and parents.

(7) Strengthening of consultation with juveniles and parents

To prevent juvenile delinquency and support delinquents’ rehabilitation, consultations by administrative agencies and private volunteer groups, will be strengthened and accessible through telephone or the Internet. At school especially, workforce for counseling will be strengthened by the placement of outside specialists in order to prevent, find and treat students’ truancy and problematic behavior at the earliest possible stage.

(8) Improving students’ awareness of social norms and rules by education and advocacy through delinquency prevention sessions

Improve students’ awareness of social norms and rules through delinquency prevention classes, drug abuse prevention sessions, education about criminal punishment system and civil liability, study of related educational materials, support for student guidance, by local residents and the “action plan for supporting junior high school students” which is supported by probation assigned to schools.

(9) Promotion of moral education at schools

Make moral education effective through employing local celebrities and specialists as part-time teachers, producing and distributing guidance materials to teachers, distributing textbooks for moral education and enabling students to gain social experience. Work in cooperation with the Board of Education and education facilities of universities to research effective methods for moral education.

(10) Enrichment of education and enlightenment at home

Home education plays an important role in developing children’s basic ethical sense, social manners, self-control and independence. To support home education, provide parents with opportunities for learning home education, establish a framework for counseling about childcare and

upbringing, make and distribute a childcare manual and distribute to parents a book on prevention of drug abuse.

- (11) Promote education in the community and provide a place of comfort and peace for juveniles

Not only hands-on activities to come in contact with other people and nature will be encouraged in the school educational program, but the schools will be used after school and on weekends as well, soliciting the educational brainwork of adults in the community, in order to promote sports, cultural, and social volunteering activities, exchange programs involving people of the community, discourse sessions on drug issues, whereupon the sociability of juveniles as well as places of comfort and peace for them shall be created and nurtured. To vitalize these activities, forums shall be held and an activity support center for experiential volunteer programs shall be established.

- (12) Treatment of juveniles with social adaptation problems

Assist juvenile delinquents in their rehabilitation through providing opportunities for participating in interesting activities in cooperation with local residents, such as experiential curriculum, sports, cultural and social activities and association with local residents. Avoid isolation of unemployed juveniles through assisting their entrance to school or work.

- (13) Socialization of truant and withdrawn juveniles

Tackle the truancy problem through training of teachers, home visiting, establishing support framework by the whole community, including schools, families and related organizations. Concerning the reasons of truancy such as loitering and delinquency, effective methods of guidance outside school will be researched. Provide opportunities of social activities for problematic withdrawn juveniles. Concerning mental health during adolescence, special counseling and case management will be promoted at mental health centers, public health centers and child guidance centers, and will provide training of specialists in mental health care. In addition, diffuse guidelines for proper counseling for withdrawn juveniles.

- (14) Improvement of child independence support centers

Assist juvenile delinquents to be independent and to build their adaptability to our society, through reinforcing the skills of individual staff at the child independence support center to give appropriate instruction

depending on each individual situation. For example, more specialists should be hired at the centers. Because it may be difficult for children who leave the facilities to return home, the system of supporting their independence should be strengthened by giving them proper assistance and guidance.

3. Reinforce Cooperation between the Organizations concerned to Prevent Juvenile Delinquency

- (1) Establishment of juvenile support teams in cooperation with the organizations concerned

To support juveniles who have problems in delinquency and victimization, schools, the board of education, child guidance centers, the police, the probation office, volunteer groups and the other organizations concerned will cooperate to form juvenile support teams and use their special knowledge to solve the problems. Since these teams shall prove effective for the proper maturing and rehabilitation of delinquents, their activities should be further extended outward and revitalized. Consider the establishment of necessary laws for sharing information among the administrative agencies concerned and promoting the establishment of juvenile support teams.

- (2) Joint research on juvenile problems

Form a joint research team of officials from the government offices concerned to investigate the causes and signs of unprecedented juvenile cases to examine various measures for preventing delinquency including effective management of juvenile support teams and to devise a framework for the supply of information to communities.

III. Control of Transnational Crimes

1. Strengthening Border Control

- (1) Establishment of cooperative teamwork system at international airports and seaports

Establish a cooperative teamwork system for border control through meetings of the international airport and seaport security committees composed of relevant administrative agencies.

(2) Strengthening of maritime and coastal guards

Prevent illegal immigration and the smuggling of drugs and firearms at the shoreline border and investigate suspicious ships which are likely to be involved in serious crimes, such as drug smuggling and illegal immigration. To this purpose, the police and the Maritime Safety Agency will cooperate to strengthen coastal patrol and inspection, obtaining cooperation from fishery unions and coastal residents; strengthen vigilance activities; collect and analyze information; secret and wide-area investigation; and on-the-spot inspection of foreign ships, including those coming from China and Southeast Asia.

(3) Adjustment of laws according to the Revised SOLAS Convention

The revision of the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention, which was adopted in December last year, will come into force in July next year. Enact a law that secures the convention, and improve seaport security equipment to promote the measures based on the convention.

(4) Reinforcing the security of commodity distribution

Referring to trends and precedents in foreign countries and the international organizations concerned, the security of container freights and efficiency of commodity distribution will be considered by consulting with the parties concerned.

(5) Preventing the smuggling of illegal commodities

To prevent smuggling of illegal commodities, the government will equip the customs office with control tools, such as large X-ray inspection systems and drug detector dogs; strengthen the customs' ability to collect and analyze information through international networks, such as WCO's network; and promote joint control and training by the customs offices, the Maritime Safety Agency, the police and the Drugs Control Departments.

(6) Preventing the smuggling and illegal transactions of rare wild fauna and flora

Strengthen the system for monitoring pet traders' transactions and give instructions to these traders to strictly control the import of rare wild fauna and flora that are regulated by the Washington Convention (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora), and to promote advocacy against smuggling and illegal transactions of them.

(7) Preventing the smuggling by international mail

Request the postal services of the shipping countries of drugs and firearms or of the member countries of the Universal Postal Union to strengthen the inspection for prevention of smuggling. Request Japan Post to cooperate with customs in the inspection of international mail.

(8) Prevention of illegal import and export of cultural assets

Apply the import approval regulation to the cultural assets stolen from museums in the member countries of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Supply information on stolen Japanese cultural assets all over Japan and around the world. In addition, apply the permission and approval regulation to the export of important tangible folk-cultural assets.

(9) Preventing the illegal export of stolen cars

Prevent illegal export of stolen cars through strengthening the inspection of cars at customs. For example, demand the presentation of the original certificate of obliterated registration according to the Road Trucking Vehicle Law and check the chassis number, and equip customs with control tools, such as large X-ray inspection systems. Promote customs' electronic reference to the police data on stolen cars and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport's registration data. Encourage wharf managers to strengthen the control on car theft by using the prevention manual developed by the public-private joint project team.

2. Control of Illegal Entry and Stay

(1) Strengthening of workforce, facilities and equipment related to immigration control

Make the immigration control stricter and greatly reduce illegal immigration and stay by means of strengthening the system and by improving accommodation facilities and equipment, including an increase in the number of entry guards, examiners and visa officers.

(2) Strengthening of visa examination and reconsideration of visa exemption

Strengthen visa examination by requesting a more thorough screening upon visa application, checking the facts and examining for forged passports.

In addition, consider temporarily suspending visa exemption for countries from which many illegal immigrants and offenders come to Japan, and consider recommending visa acquisition. Additional simplification of the visa acquisition procedure requires consideration for preventing illegal stay and crime committed by foreigners.

(3) Introduction of wide-area network (WAN) for visas

Establish a system for making visas with high-level automatic reading device that prevents forgery. In addition, the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the government establishments abroad and the other government offices concerned will be connected by a telecommunications network in order to promptly share information on the examination and issue of visas without delay.

(4) Strengthening of the examination of resident qualification at border control

The true aim of some foreigners who visit Japan for study, training, to work in entertainment business or marriage is illegal employment. Because their methods have become vicious and shrewd, it has become difficult to examine resident qualification. Therefore, strengthen the examination, including the survey of facts about applications and frequently exchange information between the agencies concerned to tighten the control of related offenses.

(5) Promote the sharing of information on immigration

To ensure strict immigration control, information about suspicious persons will be gathered through cooperation with relevant foreign organizations and be used effectively through the frequent exchange between relevant domestic agencies.

(6) Introduction and use of the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS)

Strengthen immigration control and make international crime investigation more efficient through the introduction of the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) with the cooperation of related businesses. This system enables collation of the information on airline passengers and crew with government office information held by the government on persons under surveillance.

(7) Preventing forgery and illegal acquisition of passports

To prevent illegal use of others' passports, record biological information, including a photograph of the face, in the passport equipped with an IC chip, observing International Civil Aviation Organization to establish international standards and trends of foreign countries. Examine the use of such passports for the immigration examining procedure and for the discovery of criminals, and promote the introduction of related equipment. In addition, identify passengers thoroughly and strengthen the control in order to prevent foreigners from acquiring passports illegally by using names of Japanese persons.

(8) Crackdown on illegal visitors and improve the efficiency of the procedure for compulsory deportation

Strengthen the workforce for investigation in the areas where many illegal visitors stay, and carry out joint action constantly. Make the compulsory deportation procedure efficient through the wide use of the legal framework of referring suspects to border guards according to Article 65 of the Immigration-Control and Refugee-Recognition Act. In order to carry out the procedure smoothly, the Japanese government improves the framework of group deportation and request foreign countries to promptly issue documents necessary for deportees returning home.

(9) Strict management of the alien registration

Control foreign residents properly through preventing forged certificates of alien registration, closely examining applications for alien registration and positively supplying information on illegal visitors to the Immigration Bureau. Prevent the abuse of certificates of alien registration issued to illegal visitors for pretense of lawful stay.

(10) Promoting policies relating to the acceptance of foreign students and trainees

The government will instruct Japanese language schools to select their students properly and administer their enrollment with special care and caution (for instance, maintaining a strict observance of attendance) so as to accept foreign students whose genuine purpose of staying in Japan is studying, and exchange information and opinion between the organizations concerned. Enhance foreign students' motivation to study and let them study in peace, by improving the environment for them in manners such as awarding scholarships and providing accommodations. Moreover,

strengthen the measures for finding missing foreign students under the cooperation between related organizations and companies.

- (11) Support for foreigners of Japanese descent in finding employment and entering schools

Many young foreigners of Japanese decent who are allowed to stay in Japan for a long time commit crimes, because many of them are neither employed nor enrolled in school. The government will hold job and career counseling in their communities, and establish the “foreigner employment service corner” in the job placement offices and interpreters stationed there. To adapt young foreigners to schools and communities earlier and to develop their skills, the government will dispatch supporters who can understand foreign languages, and research how to educate and instruct them tailored to individuals and how to promote education for international understanding through interaction among returnee and foreign children and Japanese children.

- (12) Establishment of a legal framework for revoking resident qualification

Revise the Immigration-Control and Refugee-Recognition Act so as the resident qualification can be revoked in close cases where it is improper to let a foreigner continue to stay in Japan such as, the foreigner is planning to live in Japan by illicit means.

- (13) Strict identification of foreigners when they are employed or stay in hotels

Prevent illegal stay and employment by strict identification of foreigners. To this purpose the government will request employers to check certificates of alien registration, and request hotel owners to verify visitor’s nationality and the passport number correctly in the hotel register. In addition, the police will try to obtain the cooperation of employers and hotels in carrying out police duties.

- (14) Promotion of publicity and advocacy for prevention of illegal stay and employment

Prevent illegal stay and employment and to secure proper employment and working conditions for foreigners through promoting publicity and advocacy to employers including distribution of pamphlets. In addition, to prevent foreigners from entering Japan for the purpose of illegal stay or employment, the government will publicize Japan’s immigration control

system and immigration policy in the countries producing a large population of immigrants for illegal stays and employment.

- (15) Strengthening of investigation and control of vicious brokers and employers

Instruct entertainment and amusement businesses not to employ illegal immigrants and carry out investigation. Strengthen the cooperation between the agencies concerned and the investigation of vicious brokers and employers who mediate illegal employment. Investigate and give caution against various activities that encourage illegal employment and stay. In addition, cooperate with foreign agencies in the investigation of criminal organizations engaged in human trafficking.

- (16) Consideration of establishment of a law against human trafficking

The government will have necessary consideration for ensuring punishments on trafficking and smuggling to conclude the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, both of which supplement the Convention against Transnational Organized Crimes.

- (17) Establishment of a law for reduction in the number of illegal immigrants

To greatly reduce the number of foreigners staying in Japan illegally, the government will consider establishing a law for strengthening their punishment.

- (18) Examination on policies for accepting foreigners in view of the crime situation

Although most foreigners in Japan live legally and peacefully, there are still many foreigners staying illegally in Japan. These many illegal immigrants are one of the causes of the large number of crimes committed by foreigners, especially those of vicious, organized nature, resulting in feelings of anxiety among the general populace of Japan. Therefore, the policies about how to accept foreign tourists and workers should be reexamined in referring to its influence on the peace and order in Japan.

3. Strengthening of Investigation of Crimes Committed by Foreigners

- (1) Investigation of crimes committed by foreigners and proper punishment

Crimes committed by foreigners have become atrocious, organized, and widespread all over Japan. Reexamine the police organization, increase the workforce engaging in investigation of crimes committed by foreigners, endeavor to solve each crime and disclose the whole of the organized group behind such crimes, arrest and punish criminals by the full use of related laws and deprive them of criminal profits.

(2) Establishment of an interpreter workforce

Difficulties in communication with foreign suspects often hinder smooth investigation. Promote the training of interpreting personnel of various languages and enter contracts with competent private interpreters.

4. Strengthening of Cooperation with Foreign Authorities

(1) Strengthening of cooperation in international investigation and considering conclusion of conventions

In enforcing the Japan-U.S. Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty in Criminal Matters, the Japanese government will designate the investigation and judicial authorities as the central authorities and reciprocate assistance directly between the central authorities without using diplomatic channels. After that, examine the possibility of concluding similar treaties with Asian countries and other foreign countries. In addition, because such a central authorities system is adopted in multinational treaties, cooperation in reciprocating assistance between the central authorities should be considered when enforcing the multinational treaties.

(2) Strengthening of cooperation with foreign authorities

Promote the information exchange and cooperation concerning transnational crimes with foreign authorities through the ICPO route, diplomatic channels, bilateral meetings or multilateral meetings held by international organizations. Strongly promote the exchange of information and the cooperation with China's Public Security Ministry.

(3) Request to the Chinese authorities for thoroughgoing control of compulsory deportees

Concerning those Chinese who are compulsorily deported from Japan due to a crime or illegal stay, request the Chinese authorities to control them thoroughly according to China's domestic laws to prevent them from reentering Japan illegally.

(4) Early conclusion of a treaty of consular relations with China

Continue to discuss with China about earlier conclusion of a treaty of consular relations that secures measures to decrease the number of Chinese crimes in Japan, such as identification of persons in custody and a compulsory report to the consulate when either party keeps the other party's person in custody.

(5) Early conclusion of a convict transfer treaty with China

Chinese convicts are a major cause for the overcrowded prisons in Japan. When the conclusion of the treaty of consular relations with China comes in sight, Japan will begin to discuss with China about the agreement on convict transfer treaty. At the same time, Japan will discuss with China about China's affiliation in the Council of Europe's Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons.

(6) Discussion with China about the conclusion of a treaty of mutual support between customs

To efficiently control violations to the laws concerning customs duties between Japan and China, both countries' customs authorities will discuss the conclusion of a treaty of mutual support between the customs of both countries.

IV. Protection of Economy and Society from Organized Crimes

1. Countermeasures against Boryokudan and Other Criminal Organizations

(1) Collection and sharing of information on organized crimes

To deal aptly with organized crimes, the police will make the control more efficient and effective by collection, analysis and sharing of information on Boryokudan, foreign visitors' organized crime groups and firearms and drug smuggling groups. This requires the reexamination of both the police organization and workforce for investigation, and the establishment of cooperation between the agencies concerned.

(2) Strengthening of the control over organized crimes and strict punishment

Make efforts to investigate organized crimes, making full use of various investigation methods, such as controlled delivery and interception of communications. In addition, promote strict punishment by applying the provisions for heavier punishment of organized crimes in the Law for Punishment of Organized Crimes.

- (3) Further use and innovation of effective methods of investigating organized crimes

To collect information on organized crimes efficiently and effectively and to investigate organized crimes thoroughly, the police will use all investigation methods; develop high-level investigation techniques, such as interception of telecommunications, controlled delivery and infiltration. In addition, consider regulations on profits from additional types of crimes, introduction and use of such techniques and regulations and examine how to conduct investigations.

- (4) Deprivation of criminal proceeds

Give financial damage to criminal organizations in order to weaken and destroy them, through investigation of violations relating to fund-raising. In addition, endeavor to deprive criminal proceeds using the provisions for deprivation and penalty in the Law for Punishment of Organized Crimes and the Law Concerning Special Provisions for Narcotics.

- (5) Countermeasures against money laundering

Investigate money laundering thoroughly to prevent the investment of criminal proceeds into the maintenance and development of criminal organization or into further crimes, and business activities, which may cause bad effects on lawful economic activities. The Financial Service Agency should gather and analyze information about suspicious transactions submitted by financial institutions under the Law for Punishment of Organized Crimes; the Financial Service Agency compiles and analyzes the information; and the investigation agencies effectively use the information for the detection of money laundering.

- (6) Contribution of the NPA to investigations conducted by prefectural police regarding transnational organized crimes

The National Police Agency will play a more positive role in prefectural police investigation of transnational organized crimes. In addition, the agency will further promote coordination with foreign police agencies to

exchange information necessary for the solution of cases and the arrest of suspects.

- (7) Early conclusion of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and establishment of laws necessary for the convention

To deal effectively with organized crimes in cooperation with international society, the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which was approved in this May should be concluded earlier, and establish laws that punish conspiracy of organized crime, bribery of witnesses, and control profits from crimes.

- (8) Establishment and revision of penal regulations for obstruction of official performance and bankruptcy-related crimes

Prevent organized crime groups from obstructing performance of official duties, through establishing penal regulations for the obstruction which are difficult to be punished under the existing criminal code. Obstruction committed by criminal organization will be punished heavier. As for crimes related to bankruptcy procedures, the crime-constituting conditions and the statutory punishment will be reconsidered according to the present economic and social situations.

- (9) Promotion of movements against organized crime groups and prevention of violence toward the administration

To prevent organized crime groups from intervening in industries and business transactions, the agencies and organizations concerned will closely cooperate and provide public relations and promote advocacy movements to encourage the public expulsion of organized crime groups. They will promote measures to prevent violence against the administration (illegal or unfair acts committed by organized crime groups or right-wing organizations against administrative agencies or officials to gain illicit profits).

- (10) Severe cross-examining of gang bosses for their responsibilities in illegal acts

If a member of an organized crime group commits an illegal act, the leader's responsibilities should be cross-examined in order to provide greater compensation to the victims. For this purpose, strengthen the cooperation with the Bar Association's Committee against Organized

Crime Groups' Intervention in Civil Affairs and examine the establishment of necessary laws.

2. Realization of A Society without Drug Abuse and Firearms Offenses

(1) Eradication of juvenile drug abuse through education and advocacy

Give students lectures and promote advocacy to communities and families to enrich education on the prevention of drug abuse by school children and other juveniles. In addition, effectively promote nationwide publicity and advocacy for the eradication of drug abuse.

(2) Annihilation of drug smuggling groups

Annihilate Boryokudan and foreigner drug smuggling groups through comprehensive measures against organized crimes. These measures include disclosure of drug smuggling groups by strengthening secret investigation of smuggling and the collection and analysis of information on suspicious financial transactions relating to drug crimes; application of the Law Concerning Special Provisions for Drugs to control and punish the core members of the group strictly and deprive the group of profits gained from drug crimes. In addition, take measures against cunning tricks of smuggling, such as use of the Internet.

(3) Tightening control of drug abusers

Tighten the control of drug abusers, who create the core for the demands in drug smuggling. In addition, strengthen measures for rehabilitating abusers addicted to drugs by providing adequate counseling.

(4) Prevention of drug smuggling at shoreline borders

To prevent drug smuggling at shoreline borders, the workforce for collecting and analyzing information will be strengthened by public-private partnership. In addition, strengthen the monitoring system at seaports and airports and endeavor to find smuggling groups and routes through the cooperation of the agencies concerned. The import and export of legal drugs and chemical which can be used for illegal drugs will be strictly monitored so as to prevent them from coming into the hands of illegal drug makers and brokers.

(5) Promotion of international cooperation in anti-drug measures

Contribute to the solution of the global problem on drug abuse through strengthening support for the efforts in areas where drugs are illegally made and sent to Japan, and promote cooperation with international organizations, conferences between advanced countries and bilateral economic cooperation.

- (6) Prevention of recurrent drug abuse by medical treatment and support for rehabilitation

Support drug abusers in rehabilitation by providing medical treatment, enriching the counseling system and conducting simplified urinalysis. In addition, strengthen the counseling system for drug abusers' families.

- (7) Countermeasures against uncontrolled newly-abused drugs

Uncontrolled newly-abused drugs are those that are not designated as narcotics and can be sold in public and used with no violations to the law. Monitor advertisements on the Internet, purchase and analyze them and designate them as narcotics if necessary.

- (8) Strengthening investigation of firearms crimes, including border control of firearms

Endeavor to investigate firearms crimes committed by Boryokudan and other crime groups, seize illegal firearms and impose strict punishment on criminals. To find smuggling groups and routes, the regulatory agencies will promote exchange of information, enrichment of the database, joint training, joint investigation and joint international operations with foreign agencies, and frequent use of advanced investigation methods, such as clean controlled delivery. In addition, to prevent firearms from spreading throughout society, the regulatory agencies will promote the collection of information on transactions of firearms on the Internet and control such transactions.

- (9) Promote the proper administration of guns and gunpowder

By carrying out strict examination when giving permission to possess hunting rifles, those who happen to be cancelled the possession after the examination shall be fully recognized and excluded. Moreover, to prevent accidents and theft, continuous and thorough guidance on the proper use and storage shall be given to holders. The rifle registry inquiry system shall further be improved in order to realize efficient and proper administration of the rifles.

(10) Gaining people's understanding and cooperation concerning gun control

Gain the people's understanding and cooperation concerning gun control by cooperating with private volunteer groups in promoting publicity and advocacy. Hold lectures for hunting rifle manufacturers and retailers in order to promote compliance. In addition, request model gun manufacturers and retailers to raise the awareness and advocacy when dealing with customers.

(11) Promotion of international cooperation in gun control

Promote international cooperation in gun control by rapidly concluding the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, which supplements the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. For this purpose, domestic laws required by the protocol will be established which demands, a seal on firearms, the keeping of records, and control of international trade.

3. Countermeasures against Various Crimes Committed by Organized Groups

(1) Strengthening of measures for protecting consumers

Strictly control crimes that threaten consumers, and increase consumers' awareness of these crimes by providing public relations and advocacy for consumers in cooperation with relevant authorities and voluntary groups at every opportunity, such as the "Consumer Month."

(2) Strict and proper application of the revised Loan Business Law

To secure proper management of loan business and protect borrowers, the government will strictly and properly apply the revised Loan Business Law (the law for illegal loans), which enforces strict requirements for registration, tighten the regulations on collection of money, impose heavier punishment and tighten the regulations on advertising and solicitation.

(3) Thoroughgoing control of illegal loans

The government will eradicate illegal loans by enforcing stricter controls under the establishment of a special taskforce. The "intensive control headquarters" will collect information and create a joint investigation against illegal loans in a wide-ranging area.

(4) Preventing damage from illegal loans

To prevent damage from illegal loans and to give relief to the victims, the agencies concerned will cooperate in sharing information through a “conference on measures for preventing damage from illegal loans.” The agencies will request media to refrain from publishing advertisements for illegal loans and to request financial institutions to supply information on suspicious accounts and, if necessary, suspend these accounts.

(5) Countermeasures against imitations and piracy

Prevent infringement of intellectual property rights, such as the sale of imitations and pirated goods, through strengthening measures on foreign goods, the control of imitations and pirated goods at points of entry or in Japan and the promoting of a public-private partnership, as stated by the “Strategic Program for Creation, Protection and Exploitation of Intellectual Property” (established by the Strategic Council on Intellectual Property Policy Headquarters on July 8, 2003).

(6) Eradication of illegal disposal and strengthening of investigation over environmental crimes

Eradicate illegal disposal, which hinders a society based on recycling; promote positive participation in disputes on wide-area waste disposal, training of waste management businesses and construction of final disposal facilities. In addition, upon obtaining cooperation from the community residents, the agencies concerned will cooperate to strengthen the control of environmental crimes, such as organized or wide-spread offenses, offenses by Boryokudan groups and offenses against administrative instruction or order. The agencies will pay special attention to the illegal disposal, outdoor incineration, sea dumping and illegal discharge from specific sites of sulfate pitch and other industrial waste.

(7) Eradication of manufacture and distribution of illegal gasoline

Eradicate the manufacture and sale of illegal gasoline for the purpose of evasion of gasoline delivery tax as well as the illegal disposal of sulfate pitch created during the manufacture. For this purpose, the government will strengthen the measures against tax evasion including the establishment of a council for control of illegal gasoline in each prefecture to strengthen the cooperation among the tax office, the fire services, the police and the environmental agencies. In addition, consider imposing heavier punishment on offenders.

(8) Eradication of poaching

Eradicate vicious and cunning poaching committed by organized crime groups and foreigners, through strengthening the information collection in cooperation with local residents, fishery associations and domestic and foreign regulatory agencies. In addition, increase the monitoring, capturing and inspecting abilities by using ships, airplanes and equipment for capture.

4. Countermeasures against Cybercrime

(1) Education and advocacy for information security

Hold seminars, improve websites and establish counseling desks to increase people's and businesses' awareness of information security and to spread knowledge and measures necessary to prevent cybercrime.

(2) Development and spread of crime prevention technologies on the Internet

There are an increasing number of cybercrimes such as fraud by those who commit unauthorized access and pretend to be others at Internet auctions. The government will develop and spread crime prevention technologies in public-private partnerships, including a high-level identification technology that can be used at low cost.

(3) Improvement in the safety and reliability of telecommunications networks

Improve the safety and reliability of telecommunications networks, by comprehensive research and development of technologies for the prevention, inspection and analysis of cyber-attacks, certification technologies, ciphering technologies and timestamp platforms in cooperation among the government, universities and corporation. In addition, develop measures for reducing the vulnerability of information systems and IT products to computer viruses and illegal access.

(4) Countermeasures against cyber-attacks on critical infrastructures

To repel cyber-attacks on critical infrastructures aptly, the government will improve the ability to collect and analyze information on cyber-attacks and strengthen cooperation and communication among public utilities, public transport services, financial institutions and administrative agencies. In addition, expand international cooperation for the protection of critical infrastructures from cyber-attacks.

- (4) Thorough investigation of cybercrime and improvement of investigation techniques

In order to investigate to arrest cybercrime thoroughly, the police will train the police officials engaged in the investigation of cybercrime, re-examine the police organization, strengthen the workforce and introduce investigation equipment that can deal with crimes using state-of-the-art IT technologies. In addition, improve techniques for investigating cybercrime, referencing advanced countries' investigation techniques, methods of proving crimes and technological standards.

- (6) Early conclusion of the Convention on Cybercrime and establishment of related criminal laws

To deal aptly with cybercrimes, which use international computer networks, the Japanese government will conclude the Convention on Cybercrime early to prevent cybercrimes in cooperation with other countries. For this purpose, establish laws for imposing punishment on the creation and provision of computer viruses, expanding the constituent elements of the distribution of obscene content matter, collecting evidence in the form of electromagnetic records and confiscating electromagnetic records.

V. Establishment of Infrastructure for Public Safety

- (1) Increase in the number of prefectural police officers

To respond aptly to the people's demands, such as prevention of street crimes and improvement in the ability to investigate various crimes, the police will increase the number of prefectural police officers and increase the number of officers at the National Police Agency.

- (2) Increase the number of prosecutors, customs officers, maritime safety officers and drug agents

To carry out investigations promptly, the government will increase the number of prosecutors and their secretaries. In addition, to strengthen border control, the government will increase the number of custom officers, maritime safety officers and drug agents.

- (3) Strengthening of the system, facilities and equipment for immigration control (already mentioned)

To make the immigration control stricter and greatly reduce illegal immigration and stay, strengthen the immigration control system and improve accommodation facilities and equipment, including an increase in the numbers of entry guards, examiners and visa officers.

(4) Obtaining prompt and adequate cooperation for investigation of crimes

To collect information necessary for investigations promptly and adequately, agencies and businesses will be required to respond quickly and aptly to investigate inquiry. In addition, telephone business operators will be required to give cooperation in investigation of crimes using cellular phones or IP phones. In addition, examine how to obtain cooperation from the public and businesses.

(5) Strengthening cooperation with the agencies concerned in control of organized crimes

To control organized crimes and crimes committed by foreigners aptly and efficiently, the government will examine how to share the information possessed by the agencies concerned. In addition, the government will examine how to strengthen cooperation between agencies that have the authority and information concerning various matters so that whenever necessary they can take effective countermeasures as if they were one organization.

(6) Establishment of advanced investigation techniques

To make crime investigation more efficient, the police will continue to study investigating methods and systems for analyzing the information on criminals and the results of DNA identification. In addition, the police will promote the development of advanced technologies, such as the high-level image analysis and the face identification, and the use of them for crime investigation.

(7) Promotion of research and development by industry-university-government cooperation and competitive funds

To strengthen the sciences and technologies that contribute to the creation of safe and peaceful society, including the certification technology and the sensor technology, the government will promote research and development through cooperation between government offices, using competitive funds, such as the funds for advancement of science and

technology, and gathering technological skills from universities, research institutes and private businesses.

- (8) Reduction of congestion in detention facilities and improvement in the efficiency of detention management

Promote the improvement of detention facilities to reduce congestion, which hinders smooth conduct of investigations. In addition, to improve the efficiency of detention management, the police will introduce the system of escorting detainees collectively and secure waiting rooms for the system in the public prosecutors offices.

- (9) Reduction of congestion in prisons and other correctional institutions, and improvement of correctional treatment

In order to reduce congestion in prisons, detention houses and reformatories caused by current aggravated criminal situation and to improve worsened treatment of inmates due to the congestion and secure appropriate conditions of these facilities, the government will construct necessary facilities immediately. Because maintenance of public safety requires careful treatment of inmates, the government will secure necessary personnel, ease the burden of duties by outsourcing, strengthen the security system and the management of inmates' work, improve medical care and refresh officials' morale.

- (10) Enrichment of rehabilitation service

Promote the construction of rehabilitation facilities according to a reasonable plan in order to improve the treatment of an increasing number of applicants to indoor rehabilitation services. In addition, the government will strengthen the workforce for dealing with an increasing number of trials for parole, improve the treatment of those who are at high risk of committing the same crime again, such as long-term prisoners and stimulant addicts, secure personnel necessary for strengthening the rehabilitation service, enrich training of facility staff members and probation officers and employ qualified probation volunteers. Moreover, strengthen the cooperation with medical and welfare institutions in treating drug addicts, mentally handicapped persons and the poor and needy.

- (11) Improvement of security facilities

With the increasing number of crimes and accidents, it has become necessary to increase the numbers of inquiry rooms and evidence

storerooms. If not increased, proper and prompt investigations and processing will be difficult. Therefore, the government will improve security facilities, such as police stations and public prosecutors offices. In addition, to control promptly and aptly various crimes that have become more vicious, cunning and organized, promote the improvement of the functions of vehicles and ships, the development and installation of various kinds of equipment, such as monitoring systems and protection and the expansion and enrichment of the telecommunications system.

(12) Promotion of intensive and prompt trials

To meet the people's expectation for the prompt and proper punishment and to adapt to the enactment of the law for prompt trials, the government will endeavor to promote intensive and prompt trials by positively encouraging intensive hearings and other efforts. In addition, increase the number of prosecutors and prosecution secretaries and improve their abilities.

(13) Revision of the penal provisions for atrocious crimes

Consider revising the penal provisions for atrocious crimes, including heavier punishment and longer terms of maximum imprisonment (20 years at present).

(14) Comprehensive analysis of causes for crimes

To obtain basic information for the development of effective anticrime measures, the government will promote the repetitive and continuous research on damages by crimes, the sharing of criminal information among research institutes, evaluation of anticrime measures and the development of a profiling system based on statistical and geographical analyses, referring to advanced countries' researches on crimes.