

The Fourth Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc.

March 2021

Introduction

The Basic Act on Crime Victims (Act No. 161 of 2004, and hereinafter referred to as the “Basic Act”) was enacted in December 2004, and we created policies from the viewpoint of crime victims, etc. and took another step forward to realizing a society where they have their interests and rights protected.

Pursuant to the Basic Act, the Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc. (decided by the Cabinet on December 27, 2005 and hereinafter referred to as the “First Basic Plan”), the Second Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc. (decided by the Cabinet on March 25, 2011, and hereinafter referred to as the “Second Basic Plan”), and the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc. (decided by the Cabinet on April 1, 2016, and hereinafter referred to as the “Third Basic Plan”) were formulated respectively and policies for crime victims, etc. have been significantly progressed under these plans.

For example, under the First and Second Basic Plans, the benefit system for crime victims, etc. was expanded, the restitution order system was established, and the victim participation system was established and expanded. In addition, under the Third Basic Plan, the benefit system for crime victims, etc. which contains the extension of the payment period of the severe injury or disease benefits, the revision of the limit on the provisional benefit amount, the increase in the amount of survivor benefits when there are young orphans, and the revision of the reasons for the amount reduction and non-payment in crimes against relatives was further enhanced. In addition, the expenditure system to cover the counseling cost has been established nationwide by July, 2018. Furthermore, a One-stop Center for Victims of Sexual Crimes and Sexual Violence (organization to comprehensively provide medical support, legal support and mental support through consultation, etc. immediately after damage, hereinafter referred to simply as “one-stop support center”) has been established in each prefecture by October, 2018. In addition, a comprehensive support service to provide appropriate information for crime victims, etc. has been established in all local governments by April, 2019.

However, crime victims, etc. still have many issues. Therefore, a wide range of opinions and requests regarding the enhancement of support in the medium to long term are constantly received from crime victims, etc. and private organizations that provide assistance to them.

In addition, it is necessary to listen to unvoiced opinions of crime victims, etc. who have difficulties in taking actions against a criminal damage on their own and to whom sufficient supports are not provided, in the situation where sexual crime and violence, and child abuse have become serious social problems.

Furthermore, since the form of damage, the attributes of crime victims, etc., and the difficult situations faced by crime victims, etc. are diverse and wide-ranging, support and assistance that take into account individual needs of every crime victim are required.

In order for crime victims, etc. to recover from the damage and to be enabled to lead a normal life again in society as soon as possible, it is necessary to provide detailed and personalized assistance to every crime victim. Therefore, state, local governments, other relevant organizations, and private organizations should cooperate and collaborate closely to further strengthen their efforts.

In order to conduct such efforts more effectively, it is necessary to develop an atmosphere conducive to the deepening of the understanding and interest of people from all walks of life and the provision of support by society as a whole for every crime victim.

Our social life has undergone a thorough and radical change due to the spread of the novel coronavirus infection from 2020 and the recent development in digitalization. Policies for crime victims, etc. need to be further enhanced in response to the change in the social life and should be carried forward steadily by incorporating digital technology and other new methods.

Since the duration of the Third Basic Plan expires at the end of March 2021, the Fourth Basic Plan

for Crime Victims, etc. (hereinafter referred to as the “Fourth Basic Plan”) will be formulated aiming to realize a society where the rights and interests of each crime victim are further protected.

I Approach in Drafting the Fourth Basic Plan and its Duration

1 Approach in Drafting the Fourth Basic Plan

To formulate the Fourth Basic Plan, the government called for opinions and requests on the revision of the Third Basic Plan from people from all walks of life including crime victims, etc. and their supporters. Furthermore, the government heard opinions and requests individually from crime victim groups, private organizations that support crime victims, etc. and others in formulating the Fourth Basic Plan. We received a total of about 530 opinions and requests from 148 people and 75 organizations. Based on these opinions and requests, several issues were pointed out in preparation for the formulation of the Fourth Basic Plan, and discussions about matters to be incorporated in the Fourth Basic Plan including a further enhancement of measures contained in the Third Basic Plan were repeatedly held.

As defined in Article 2, paragraph 2 of the Basic Act, the term “crime victims, etc.” in the Fourth Basic Plan means persons, families or bereaved families that have suffered damages from crimes, etc., and there is no limitations on the scope of crime victims, etc. with regard to the type of perpetrators, type of crimes which caused the victimization, whether the offence was committed intentionally or negligently, whether the case was prosecuted or not, whether the case has been solved or is unsolved, nationality of the victim, place where the offence took place, or any other factors. It is assumed that each measure is to properly define and identify its intended target.

2 Duration of the Fourth Basic Plan

Since the policies included in the Fourth Basic Plan need to be reviewed appropriately in a certain period of time based on the state of the progress and changes in the circumstance surrounding crime victims, etc., the planning period will be five years from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2026.

II Fundamental principles

In order to attain the objective of overcoming difficulties facing crime victims, etc. and protecting their rights and interests based on the basic principles of Article 3 of the Basic Act, we establish the following four fundamental principles regarding the formulation and implementation of individual policies in the Fourth Basic Plan in the same manner as in the First Basic Plan to the Third Basic Plan.

[Four fundamental principles]

[1] Guarantee the right of crime victims, etc. to be treated accordingly to their dignity

Article 3, paragraph 1 of the Basic Act stipulates that “All crime victims, etc. have their right to have their individual dignity respected and right to receive a treatment that is

appropriate for that dignity.”

Crime victims, etc. are our neighbors. In addition, everyone living in society can receive a criminal damage and be a crime victim. Therefore, policies for crime victims, etc. are not unilateral beneficial measures for crime victims, etc. as an exceptional case, but are designed to protect the rights and interests of crime victims, etc. that should be naturally guaranteed as an irreplaceable member of society. The policies should be implemented from the perspective that crime victims, etc. have the right to have their dignity respected and to be treated according to their dignity.

[2] Take each measure properly, mindful of individual victim’s circumstance

Article 3, paragraph 2 of the Basic Act stipulates that “Policies for crime victims, etc. are to be formulated so that they are tailored to the cause and situation of the damage, the situation of the crime victims, etc. and other relevant factors.”

Since the policies for crime victims, etc. should be implemented to enable crime victims, etc. to overcome difficulties they are facing and protect their rights and interests, the policies should be implemented appropriately in accordance with individual circumstances while accurately understanding the specific circumstances of crime victims, etc. and sufficiently considering their changes.

In addition, the policies should be implemented appropriately by accurately grasping the needs of crime victims, etc. who are unable to take actions against a criminal damage on their own and whose damages tend to be hidden, as well as those of children who are not directly victimized but may be adversely affected both mentally and physically due to their siblings’ victimization.

[3] Provide a seamless and continuous support

Article 3, paragraph 3 of the Basic Act stipulates that “Policies for crime victims, etc. are to be formulated so that crime victims, etc. are able to continuously receive the necessary support, etc. from the time they incurred the damage until they restore their normal life.”

The policies for crime victims, etc. should be implemented not only to enable crime victims, etc. to overcome difficulties that they are facing currently, but also to enable them to lead a normal life again. To ensure this, it is necessary to have a medium- to long-term perspective to help crime victims, etc. restore their life by fully making use of systems other than those aimed at providing assistance to crime victims, etc. and private initiatives. On top of that, the policies for crime victims, etc. should be implemented without interruption so that all crime victims, etc. may receive appropriate support whenever and wherever they need it.

[4] Progress while building the national consensus

Article 6 of the Basic Act stipulates that “Citizens must endeavor be careful neither to disturb the peace of the lives nor damage the reputation of crime victims, etc., and cooperate with the policies for crime victims, etc. implemented by the State and local governments.”

The policies for crime victims, etc. should be implemented appropriately in such a manner as not to lose public confidence from the perspective of forming a national consensus for cooperating in the policies for crime victims, etc., such as to enable them to live together in communities without any harm to their honor or peaceful life.

III Priorities

In the same manner as in the First Basic Plan to the Third Basic Plan, the following five priorities are established as comprehensive issues in the Fourth Basic Plan based on opinions and requests from crime victims, etc. and their supporters.

Further, when implementing each policy, it is necessary to clearly recognize how each policy is placed within the priorities and to make efforts so that policies of the relevant ministries may be promoted and developed in a cross-sectional and comprehensive manner.

[Five priorities]

[1] Efforts to recover the victims' damages and to provide them with economic support

Crime victims, etc. not only suffer various damages by crimes, etc., such as loss of their own lives or family members, getting injured and deprivation of their properties, but many of them also suffer economic hardships due to burdens of high medical costs or disruption of income. In quite a few occasions, there arises the need for them to relocate themselves because their homes were the scene of the crime or there was the need to escape from the offenders, or it may become difficult for them to maintain the employment relationship for lack of their employer's understanding about the damage caused by the crime or the burden related to criminal procedures.

Naturally the person who must bear the responsible for damages caused by the crime, etc. is the perpetrator. However, there are rumblings of discontent of crime victims, etc. about the fact that the liability for damages is not fulfilled by perpetrators and compensation is not received sufficiently. Therefore, in order to enable crime victims, etc. to overcome economic hardships they are facing, it is necessary to promote efforts to restore damages of crime victims, etc. and financially support them including promoting the use of systems other than those aimed at providing assistance to crime victims, etc. and private initiatives, as well as conducting a necessary review toward the realization of the perpetrators' liability for damages.

[2] Efforts for the Victims to Recover from or to Prevent Mental and/or Physical Damage

Many crime victims, etc. suffer serious damage to their lives and bodies due to crimes, etc. Moreover, in many cases, they not only suffer mental, physical, and property damages directly caused by crimes, etc., but also suffer mental damage from the fact that they themselves or their family members have become the target of the crimes, etc. Further, they may experience a fear or anxiety due to re-victimization or a fear or anxiety over the possibility of re-victimization in the future, or they may also suffer a so-called secondary victimization, which is caused by an inconsiderate treatment during the process of investigation and trial, medical treatment or welfare.

Therefore, it is necessary to make efforts to restore and mitigate, or preempt mental and physical damage of crime victims, etc. In particular, since sexual crime and violence diminish seriously the dignity of the persons and adversely affect their mind and body for a long period of time, it is necessary to further enhance their support by strengthening the system of the one-stop support centers.

In addition, since child abuse, stalking, and spousal violence are often repeated resulting in the escalation of damage and serious harm to the life and physical well-being, it is necessary not only to strengthen measures to prevent damage, but also to further enhance efforts to facilitate consultations, ensure safety and provide appropriate support.

[3] Efforts to broaden the opportunity for victims to participate in criminal procedures

The legitimate resolution to the case is indispensable for the recovery of crime victims, etc. from damage and their participation in the process for solution may contribute to the recovery from their mental damage. Therefore, based on the premise that criminal procedures and procedures for juvenile protection cases must meet various requests to consider, such as maintaining national and social order, guaranteeing individual human rights, juveniles' sound development, efforts should be made to increase opportunities to allow crime victims, etc.

who are “the party of the incident” to appropriately participate in these procedures.

In addition, based on the fact that with regards to the treatment of offenders on the stage of execution and probation, there are voices from crime victims, etc. and their supporters calling for more information provision and reflection of their feelings on the treatment of offenders, it is necessary to further enhance considerations about the position and the feelings of crime victims, etc. in the treatment of offenders.

[4] Efforts to improve the systems to support crime victims, etc.

In order for crime victims, etc. who face various difficult situations immediately after the damage to be able to lead a normal life again, it is necessary to develop a seamless support system for both local governments and private organizations that provide assistance to them so that all crime victims, etc. may obtain information and receive consultations whenever and wherever they need and receive fine-tuned assistance based on specialized knowledge and skills.

In addition, crime victims, etc. are in need of support and assistance over the life in general such as medical care and welfare, housing, and employment immediately after the damage. Furthermore, it sometimes takes a long time for them to recover from the damage, and their needs may change during that time. The content of the support necessary for them may change due to changes in the circumstances surrounding them. Therefore, it is necessary to make efforts aimed to develop the necessary system so as to provide medium- to long-term support for them.

Since there is a limit to the support provided by the initiatives of a single relevant organization or group, it is necessary for the state, local governments, and other relevant organizations as well as private organizations and groups that provide assistance to crime victims, etc. to cooperate and collaborate with one another so as to provide multilayered support immediately after the damage in a concerted effort.

In addition, not only the policies taken by the state, but also the initiatives taken by local governments and private organizations and groups that provide assistance to crime victims, etc. must be made well known so that they may receive appropriate support whenever they need it.

[5] Efforts to foster the understanding among citizens and to earn their consideration and cooperation

Policies for crime victims, etc. cannot be fully effective without the understanding and cooperation of the citizens. Since it is possible for crime victims, etc. to restore a normal life only if they are considered, respected, and supported by the local community, the implementation of policies for them and the understanding and cooperation of the citizens are inseparable.

Therefore, we need to promote our efforts to deepen the citizens’ understanding and sympathy about the situation of the crime victims, etc. and the importance of considerations for their honor or peaceful lives, and to ensure the citizens’ cooperation in the consideration and respect of crime victims, etc. and the policies for them, by continuously conducting educational activities and public relations and enlightenment activities through various opportunities and media in consideration of the widespread of the Internet and social media.

IV Systems for promotion

In the same manner as in the First Basic Plan to the Third Basic Plan, we establish specific policies and develop promotion systems in the Fourth Basic Plan based on the provisions of

Article 7, Article 8, paragraphs 3 and 4, which are applied mutatis mutandis in Article 7 and Article 8, paragraph 5, Article 10 and Article 23 of the Basic Act as well as the matters related to affairs under the jurisdiction of the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims prescribed in Article 24, paragraph 2 of the Basic Act so that the policies for crime victims, etc. may be implemented in an effective and efficient manner as a whole.

[Matters based on the Basic Act]

- [1] Cooperation and collaboration among national administrative organs
- [2] Cooperation and collaboration between the state and local governments
- [3] Cooperation and collaboration between the state and other various relevant organizations and groups
- [4] Incorporation of opinions of crime victims, etc. properly into the policies
- [5] Ensuring transparency in the policy formulation process
- [6] Inspection, assessment and monitoring of the implementation status of the policies
- [7] Implementation of follow-ups by annual reports
- [8] Review of the Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc. (hereinafter referred to as the “Basic Plan”)

[Future policies]

(1) Cooperation and collaboration among national administrative organs

We are to take advantage of the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims to discuss important matters among relevant ministries in order to implement necessary policies. In addition, the Council and National Police Agency are to conduct closer liaison and coordination among relevant ministries as needed and promote policies for crime victims, etc. comprehensively in conjunction with various other measures based on the medium- to long-term policies on measures other than those for crime victims, etc.

In the wake of the transfer of work related to the policies for crime victims, etc. from the Cabinet Office to the National Public Safety Commission (National Police Agency) in April 2016, the Commission (the Agency), which is closely in contact with crime victims, etc., more in person and implements various policies, is to promote more specific efforts in implementing the policies and strongly promote the policies for crime victims, etc. in closer cooperation and collaboration among the relevant ministries.

(2) Cooperation and collaboration between the state and local governments

The National Police Agency is to share information with the department in charge of the policies for crime victims, etc. in local governments so as to implement policies for crime victims, etc. by taking advantages of the meeting of directors of the departments in charge of the policies for crime victims, etc. of the prefectures and ordinance-designated cities, and ensuring cooperation and collaboration as well as considering appropriate division of roles between the state and local governments.

(3) Cooperation and collaboration between the state and other various relevant organizations and groups

The relevant ministries are to implement policies for crime victims, etc. in cooperation and collaboration among national organs other than administrative organs, crime victim groups, private organizations that provide support to crime victims, etc. and various relevant organizations and groups, such as business associations.

(4) Incorporation of opinions of crime victims, etc. properly into the policies

The National Police Agency is not only to provide opportunities to regularly hear opinions from crime victim groups and private organizations that support crime victims, etc., but also to widely solicit opinions from crime victims, etc. through various media.

The relevant ministries are to endeavor to appropriately reflect these opinions in the policies.

(5) Ensuring transparency in the policy formulation process

The National Police Agency is not only to endeavor to quickly publish minutes of the meetings of the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, but also to operate the website on the policies for crime victims, etc., as a means to provide information on these policies.

(6) Inspection, assessment and monitoring of the implementation status of the policies

The Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims is to verify and evaluate the effects of the promotion of the Basic Plan and of the implementation status of the policies for crime victims, etc., as well as to have the relevant ministries promote the implementation of effective and appropriate policies and monitor the status of the review, formulation and implementation in a timely and appropriate manner. In addition, when it is found necessary in consideration of the results of the verification, the Council is to state an opinion on the principles of the policies to relevant administrative organs.

(7) Implementation of follow-ups by annual reports

The National Police Agency is not only to conduct necessary research regularly to review the state of progress of the policies for crime victims, etc., but also to endeavor to further promote the policies based on the review in collaboration with the monitoring of the implementation status of the policies performed by the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims. The Agency is to endeavor to gain a quantitative assessment of the state of progress of the policies, and if this is difficult, a qualitative assessment thereof as far as possible. In addition, the Agency is to publish the results of such reviews through an annual report.

(8) Review of the Basic Plan

The Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims is to review the Basic Plan as needed based on the needs of crime victims, etc., changes in the circumstances surrounding them and the state of progress of the policies for them.

V Specific policies for the priorities

Part 1: Efforts to Recover the Victims' Damages and to Provide them with Economic Support

1 Supporting Victims to Claim the Compensation for Damages, etc. (related to Article 12 of the Basic Act)

(1) Support provided by the Japan Legal Support Center

- a) The financial burdens of crime victims on civil claim such as attorney's fees and cost of claiming compensation for damages are to be lightened by effective use of the Civil Legal Aid system operated by the Japan Legal Support Center. [Ministry of Justice] (1)
- b) The Japan Legal Support Center is to provide trainings to the staff in charge of providing information to crime victims, etc., who will be the contact point for support for them, in order to deepen their understanding of the feelings of crime victims, etc., and listen to their feelings appropriately. In addition, the Center is to continue to endeavor not only to hold attorneys who are well-versed in assisting crime victims, etc., in cooperation with bar associations, but also to develop the referral system of attorneys so as to provide necessary services according to each individual situation of crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Justice] (2)

- (2) Enhancement of the provision of information on the system of claiming compensation for damages, etc.
The National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice are to collaborate to improve the contents of booklets and brochures that explain the outline of the system of claiming compensation for damages to protect and support crime victims, etc., and disseminate the system. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (3) (See also Part 4, 1. (220))
- (3) Thorough dissemination of systems such as the criminal settlement system
The Ministry of Justice is to make people get acquainted with systems, such as the criminal settlement, inspection and copying of trial records, and flexible disclosure of non-prosecution records. [Ministry of Justice] (4)
- (4) Promoting proper payment of insurance proceeds
- a) Efforts such as arbitration conducted by the Foundation Jibaiseki Handling of Disputes Mechanism, onsite inspection of insurance companies by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, and instructions for proper payments by the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism are to be made to promote proper auto insurance payments. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (5)
 - b) In order to ensure that insurance claims are properly paid according to the insurance contract, including the case where insurance claims are directly paid to crime victims, etc., the Financial Services Agency is to verify the management system of insurance companies for payment of insurance claims and take proper measures if any problem is found in the operation or management of insurance companies, on the basis of the “Comprehensive Guidelines for Supervision for Insurance Companies” (established on August 12, 2005). [Financial Services Agency] (6)
 - c) The Nichibenren Traffic Accident Consultation Center is to provide various kinds of support to victims with respect to payment of compensation for traffic accident damages under automobile liability insurance to ensure proper restitution through measures such as free legal consultation and assistance for private settlements by attorneys. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (7)
 - d) The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism is to provide proper support for crime victims, etc. of traffic accidents such as hit-and-run victims or victims of uninsured automobiles, through payment of direct payments from the Government Compensation Operation instead of the perpetrators. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (8)
- (5) Dissemination of the fact that sentenced persons are allowed to apply the incentive remuneration they receive for prison work to compensate victims
The Ministry of Justice is to continue to make sentenced persons get acquainted that pursuant to laws and regulations, they are allowed to apply their incentive remuneration they receive for prison work to damage compensation for crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Justice] (9)
- (6) Support for recovery from damages due to crimes committed by *boryokudan* (organized crime groups)
The police are to support the recovery of victims from damages due to crimes committed by *boryokudan* (organized crime groups) in cooperation with Prefectural Centers to Promote Movements for Elimination of Violence and the Committee on Anti-Racketeering of the Bar

Associations. [National Police Agency] (10)

- (7) Investigation on fulfillment of offender's liability of compensation for damages
 - a) The National Police Agency, in cooperation with relevant ministries, is to carry out an investigation to gain an understanding of the actual situation where crime victims, etc. cannot receive compensation for damages, and to conduct necessary reviews in accordance with the results. [National Police Agency] (11)
 - b) Based on the supplementary resolution to the Act Partially Amending the Civil Execution Act and the Act for Implementation of the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (Act No. 2 of 2019) enacted in May 2019, the Ministry of Justice, in cooperation with relevant ministries, is to conduct investigative research on advanced legal system and operation in other countries about the ensuring of the fulfillment by public institutions to enable crime victims, etc. to exercise their right to claim for damages, and to conduct necessary reviews in accordance with the results. [Ministry of Justice] (12)

2 Improvement of Systems Concerning the Benefits and other payments (related to Article 13 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Operational improvement in the benefit system for crime victims, etc.

The National Police Agency is not only to give instructions to the prefectural police on an effective operation of the provisional benefit system and other operational improvement in benefit systems for crime victims, etc., making the systems known to all concerned staff and introducing them to crime victims, etc., but also to endeavor to pay benefits to crime victims, etc. as soon as possible. [National Police Agency] (13)
- (2) Reduction of medical expenses of sexual crime victims

The National Police Agency is to subsidize the prefectural police with the expenses required for emergency contraception, induced abortion and examinations for sexually transmitted diseases, and public funded expenses for sexual crime victims, such as initial medical examination fee and medical certificate fee. In addition, the Agency is to give instructions to the prefectural police so as to enable the public expenditure system for emergency contraception, etc. to be operated at the same level throughout the country as much as possible, which contributes to effectively reducing the burden of sexual crime victims, and to effectively make people get acquainted with various support measures, including that mental illnesses associated with damages by sexual crimes are also subject to the benefit system for crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency] (14)
- (3) Reduction of expenses burden of psychotherapies including counseling

The National Police Agency is to give instructions to the prefectural police to make efforts to assign in-house counselors with qualifications such as certified public psychologist and/or certificated clinical psychologist surely and sufficiently. In addition, the Agency is to give instructions to the prefectural police so that the public expenditure system to cover counseling costs will be operated at the same level nationwide as much as possible, and endeavor to make known the system. [National Police Agency] (15)
- (4) Measures for costs of transportation of the corpse and other relevant fees after the judicial autopsy

The prefectural police are to actively utilize the public expenditure system to cover corpse

transportation costs and corpse repair costs after judicial autopsy. [National Police Agency] (16)

- (5) Promotion for local governments to adopt consolation payment system for crime victims
The National Police Agency is to request local governments to introduce a consolation payment system or a system for loans for living expenses for crime victims, etc. In addition, the Agency is to provide information of local governments that have adopted these systems through the White Paper on Crime Victims and its website. [National Police Agency] (17)
- (6) Utilization of residual property after payment made by financial institutions to victims
Deposit insurance contributions that are used as a source of fund for financial damages such as remittance fraud are expected to decrease with a decrease in the number of remittance frauds. However, scholarship grant projects to children of crime victims, etc. and subsidy programs for support organizations for crime victims, etc. are to continue to be implemented. [Financial Services Agency, Ministry of Finance and National Police Agency] (18) (See also Part 4, 3. (244))
- (7) Economic support for Japanese nationals victimized abroad
The National Police Agency is to give instructions to the prefectural police to ensure the proper operation of the policy on the payment of condolence benefits, etc. for Japanese nationals victimized abroad, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to endeavor to make known the system. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Foreign Affairs] (19)

3 Stabilization of Residence (related to Article 16 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Priority in tenant selection for public housings and other measures
 - a) The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism is to promote local governments' practice of offering crime victims, etc. priority in tenant selection for public housing and to allow them to use such housing for purposes other than those originally intended in accordance with local situations. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (20)
 - b) With regards to moving into a prefectural public housing, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism is to make known by taking advantage of opportunities such as meetings about requesting local governments to promote cross-regional treatment and a close collaboration among local governments including municipalities that manage municipal public housing. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (21)
 - c) UR (Urban Renaissance Agency) is to be flexible when managerial bodies for public housing request to rent rental housing managed by UR. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (22)
 - d) With a view to promoting smooth moving of crime victims, etc. into housings, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism is not only to make known the system of the Housing Support Council and Housing Support Associations, but also to support efforts of the Council and the Associations to help crime victims, etc. find suitable housings and move into them. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (23)
 - e) The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, in cooperation with relevant organizations, is to provide crime victims, etc. with information on moving into

public housings. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (24)

- (2) Securing temporary residence immediately after the damage and on a medium-term basis
- a) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to endeavor to properly operate temporary protection at child guidance centers and women's counseling centers as well as temporary protection entrustment to women's protection facilities and private shelters. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (25) (See also Part 2, 2. (90))
 - b) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote the strengthening of the staff allocation system and environment improvement in order to treat child abuse individually at a temporary shelter of child guidance center based on the "Measures to Drastically Strengthen the Prevention of Child Abuse" (decided by the Ministerial Meeting on Child Abuse Prevention Measures on March 19, 2019). [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (26) (See also Part 2, 2. (91))
 - c) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to develop the system of the women's counseling centers and provide appropriate and effective temporary protection in emergency including nights and holidays so as to ensure safety of and provide mental care to victimized women at the women's counseling centers. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (27)
 - d) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to endeavor to enhance livelihood support to residents at women's protection facilities and maternal and child living support facilities by strengthening the functions of these facilities so that temporary protection may lead to independent life in the community. In addition, the Ministry is to endeavor not only to provide mental care and encourage self-reliance support to victims of sexual violence at the women's protection facility, but also to deepen understanding of the women's protection facilities and promote the use by preparing easy-to-understand brochures. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (28)
 - e) The National Police Agency is not only to subsidize the prefectural police with the expenses required for securing emergency evacuation places for crime victims, etc. when their homes become scenes of crimes and are destroyed, which makes them difficult to live in and when they cannot find places for their livelihood by themselves, and expenses for cleaning their homes when they become scenes of crimes, but also to give instructions to the prefectural police so that these measures may be effective to reduce the burden of crime victims, etc. in an effective manner. [National Police Agency] (29)
 - f) The National Police Agency is to conduct enlightenment activities and provide information to local governments that are public organs close to crime victims, etc. so that they may take appropriate measures to secure places to live and provide livelihood support immediately after the damage. [National Police Agency] (30)
- (3) Self-reliance support and settlement support for sexual crime victims
- The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to provide necessary support to local governments and cooperation engaging in specified non-profit activities that operate domestic violence shelters to enable them to continuously provide comprehensive support aimed to allow sexual crime victims and other clients to settle in the community, including self-reliance support such as providing life counseling and accompanying them to administrative agencies, visiting domestic violence victims who left the shelter, or accompanying them to a place of social activities (place for community activities, workplace, etc.), or provision of guidance and counseling by the staff. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (31)

4 Stabilization of Employment (related to Article 17 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Promotion to raise understanding among business operators and other employers
On the basis of adequate understanding of crime victims, etc., the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to take the following policies;
 - a) To endeavor to properly operate trial employment projects applicable to job seekers including mothers of fatherless families and fathers of motherless families [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (32)
 - b) To endeavor to operate exhaustive consultation and support services for business operators properly by the Public Employment Security Offices with respect to overall employment management such as job allocation and labor conditions [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (33)
 - c) To endeavor to provide exhaustive support for job seekers to find employment properly by the Public Employment Security Offices [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (34)
- (2) Thorough dissemination of the Individual Labor Dispute Resolution System
 - a) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is not only to make people get thoroughly acquainted with the Individual Labor Dispute Resolution System, but also to operate properly the system when solving individual labor dispute related to crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (35)
 - b) With regards to labor disputes between crime victims, etc. and their employers, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is not only to make thoroughly known the Comprehensive Labor Consultation Service Office, where consultants specializing in labor issues provide one-stop service as a public consulting office designed to provide information and consultation to crime victims, etc., but also to make active use thereof. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (36)
- (3) Dissemination and enlightenment of the leave system for recovery from mental and physical damage of crime victims, etc.
Since the leave system for recovery from mental and physical damage of crime victims, etc. is not yet fully recognized, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is not only to gain an understanding of the current situation through a questionnaire survey to companies and workers, but also to inform and enlighten employers and employees, including economic organizations and labor organizations, about the situation of crime victims, etc. and the leave system for recovery from damages by using all kinds of opportunities through leaflets and the website of the Ministry. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (37)

Part 2: Efforts for the Victims to Recover from or to Prevent Mental and/or Physical Damage

1 Provision of Healthcare Services and Welfare Services (related to Article 14 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Enhancement of the content of “specialized training on measures against PTSD”
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to hold “specialized training on measures against PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder)” for medical professionals such as doctors, public health nurses, and mental health social workers. The Ministry is also to enhance the specialized knowledge including judicial one and the content related to treatment necessary for providing appropriate response and treatment of crime victims including sexual crime victims, and to promote dissemination and enlightenment on knowledge about mental damages of crime victims, etc. and the measures for them. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (38)
- (2) Provision of information on medical institutions capable of providing treatment for PTSD
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare operates the Medical Function Information Provision System to provide information on medical functions of medical institutions such as hospitals to residents and patients. The system allows the search of medical institutions capable of providing treatment for PTSD. The Ministry is to continue to make efforts to publicize the system. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (39)
- (3) Dissemination of knowledge on the System of Medical Expenses for Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities in the clinical environment
With regards to the System of Medical Expenses for Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities (ambulant mental medical services) related to the treatment of PTSD, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has already requested prefectures and ordinance-designated cities to take measures to enable crime victims, etc. to use the system through the notification of the Director of the Mental Health and Disability Health Division, Department of Health and Welfare for Persons with Disabilities, Social Welfare and War Victims’ Relief Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Notification No. 0428-1, issued on April 28, 2016), and will continue to ask them for thorough dissemination. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (40)
- (4) Promotion for proper crime victim cares in medical education
The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to promote crime victim cares in medical education by disseminating them on the relevant conferences that medical school faculty members participate, or engaging the “Model Core Curriculum for Medical Education^{*1},” with regards to the insights and diagnostic skills on mental disorders such as PTSD or fostering understanding of crime victims, etc. In addition, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote understanding among graduates of medical schools with regards to the initial response to and practical treatment of mental disorders, by such means as setting achievement targets in clinical training. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (41)
- (5) Promotion of understanding of the staff of the Mental Health and Welfare Center on support

^{*1} The “Model Core Curriculum for Medical Education” is a guideline about the minimum education that all medical students must obtain before graduating. The “Conference of Research and Study Cooperators for Concepts of Medical and Dental Educations” presented it in March 2001 with the aim to contribute curriculum reform in universities.

services for crime victims, etc.

In order to ensure that the Mental Health and Welfare Center provides appropriate support for the recovery of mental health of crime victims, etc., the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote understanding of the staff of the Center on the support work for crime victims, etc. by urging them to receive training on the support for crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (42)

- (6) Provision of prompt and proper emergency medical treatments without regional differences
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is not only to develop the emergency medical care system of the primary, secondary and tertiary emergency care, but also to enhance and strengthen the medical control system*2 in collaboration with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications so that emergency medical care without regional differences may be provided rapidly and appropriately. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (43)
- (7) Securing a system for providing mental care in emergency medical health care
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to ensure a collaboration system with psychiatrists in emergency medical care system so as to provide mental care for crime victims, etc. in emergency medical care. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (44)
- (8) Enhancement of medical care for persons with severe disabilities due to car accidents
The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and National Agency for Automotive Safety and Victims' Aid are to promote efforts to enhance nursing facilities and secure opportunities for rehabilitation so that people with severe disabilities due to car accidents can receive high-quality treatment, nursing, and rehabilitation. In addition, they are to promote payment of nursing care fees to persons with severe disabilities due to car accidents, enhance and strengthen support for nursing care fee recipients such as the provision of consultation and information, and develop an environment in case it becomes difficult to provide home care for people with disabilities due to car accidents for various reasons. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (45)
- (9) Enhancement of support for persons with higher brain dysfunction
Based on the "Research that contributes to the diagnostic methods and criteria of higher brain dysfunction" that has been implemented with the Health Labor Sciences Research Grant since FY2020, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to continue to support the implementation of the "Higher Brain Dysfunction Support Promotion Project" designed to provide consultations to patients and their families, and to disseminate and enlighten on the support for persons with higher brain dysfunction. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (46)
- (10) Training of adolescent mental health specialists who can treat child victims
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to conduct "Adolescent Mental Health Training" for doctors, nurses, public health nurses, mental health social workers, certified public psychologists, certificated clinical psychologists and child counselors so that they may learn how to treat various mental health issues in child adolescence such as domestic violence and child abuse. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (47)

*2 "Medical control system" means the system that provides instructions, guidance, advice, and follow-up verification from doctors on emergency medical activities during the period when patients are being transported from the scene of an emergency until their arrival at a medical institution, conducted by emergency life-saving technicians or others in order to ensure the quality of such activities.

- (11) Implementation of policies that contribute to the training of specialists on the treatment of juvenile victims, system development, and facility enhancement

In response to the increasing number of admissions of abused children to foster homes, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare made it mandatory to assign psychotherapy staff and staff to provide individual support in foster homes in FY2011 and is to continue to ensure an appropriate assistance system. Specifically, in order to allow initial responses to ensure safety of children to be performed rapidly and surely when a child abuse occurs, the Ministry is to support the assignment of child welfare officers (including child welfare officer supervisors who provide guidance and education), child psychologists, public health nurses, attorneys and doctors, based on the “Comprehensive Plan Strengthening Child Abuse Prevention Measures System” (decided by the Liaison Conference of Relevant Ministries to Child Abuse Prevention Measures on December 18, 2018) and the Child Welfare Act (Act No. 164 of 1947) revised by the Act on the Partial Amendment to the Child Welfare Act, etc. to step up efforts to prevent child abuse (Act No. 46 of 2019) enacted in June, 2019. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (48)

- (12) Enhancement of the foster parents system

In order to contribute to the protection of juvenile victims, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to enhance the foster parents system by such means as supporting foster parents through foster parents support organization projects. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (49)

- (13) Enhancement of out of hours support for child abuse, etc.

a) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to endeavor to improve the system of child guidance centers so that they may respond to emergency consultations such as a notification of abuse at any time, including nights and holidays. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (50)

b) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to endeavor to enhance the cooperation and collaboration system with local medical institutions in consideration of the importance of medical care of abused children. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (51)

- (14) Enhancement of collaboration between schools and child guidance centers and other organizations for the protection of juvenile victims

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare are to enhance the collaboration between schools and relevant organizations that contribute to the protection of juvenile victims, including child guidance centers, by such means as the effective use of the Regional Councils of Countermeasures for Appropriate Aid or Appropriate Assistance for Children Requiring Aid and Specified Expectant Mother. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (52)

- (15) Enhancement of educational counseling system at schools for juvenile victims

a) The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is not only to aim to realize working conditions appropriate for specialized staff in schools including increase of the working time of school counselors and school social workers, so that they may provide counseling to children including juvenile victims appropriately based on the

current placement situation, but also to enhance the educational counseling system in schools by improving function of school counselors and school social workers including their working system and environment and improving the quality of consultations through training on crime damages. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (53)

- b) The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to urge the enhancement of mental care of juvenile victims by including it in the counseling education in the teacher-training course in universities and in training on counseling for school teachers and staff. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (54)

- (16) Promotion of continuous support aimed at recovering juvenile victims from mental damage
In order to enable juvenile victims to recover from mental damage, with the consent of their guardians, the police are to promote continuous support, including the provision of counseling and referral to relevant organizations or private victim-support organizations such as Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc. [National Police Agency] (55)

- (17) Enhancement of counseling services offered by police for sexual crime victims
In order to contribute to the recovery from the mental damage of sexual crime victims, the National Police Agency is not only to provide instructions to the prefectural police so that in-house counselors with qualifications such as certified public psychologists and certificated clinical psychologists are effectively utilized and the public expenditure system to cover counseling costs by the police is operated effectively, but also to publish the placement situation of in-house counselors and the implementation status of the system every year. [National Police Agency] (56)

- (18) Provision of information of emergency contraception for sexual crime victims
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to provide information through public health centers and women's health support centers so that people who need emergency contraception, including sexual crime victims, may obtain information on the matter. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (57) (See also Part 4, 1. (177))

- (19) Utilization of nurses to address to sexual crime victims
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote enlightenment to medical institutions on the utilization of nurses and midwives with specialized knowledge and skills to assist sexual crime victims with the cooperation of the Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (58) (See also Part 4, 1. (178))

- (20) Strengthening the system of the One-Stop Support Center
The following measures are to be promoted in order to strengthen the system of the One-Stop Support Center;
 - a) The Cabinet Office, in cooperation with relevant ministries, is to endeavor to stabilize the operation and improve the quality of the One-Stop Support Center including efforts to make it available 24/7, promote to develop base hospitals, establish a regional cooperation system including allocation of full-time coordinators, develop human resources based on the enhancement of expertise, and secure the operation system and appropriate treatment of support staff. In addition, the Office is not only to disseminate

the nationwide abbreviated number “# 8891,” but also to endeavor to develop a system to facilitate consultation by establishing call centers that provide consultations even at night and on holidays, developing a support system to access to emergency matters in communities and increasing the number of victim support centers in accordance with the actual situation of each prefecture. Furthermore, the Office is to review the operation of the nationwide abbreviated number. [Cabinet Office] (59) (See also Part 4, 1. (172))

- b) The National Police Agency is not only to provide information on the One-Stop Support Center to the department in charge of policies for crime victims, etc. in local governments, but also to endeavor to provide materials including practices at the One-Stop Support Center in order to enhance the support of victims of sexual crime and violence in communities in cooperation with the Cabinet Office and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. [National Police Agency] (60) (See also Part 4, 1. (173))
 - c) When there is consultation from a crime victim support organization or a person related to healthcare including a doctor about the opening of a One-Stop Support Center, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to collect information on medical institutions that can cooperate and provide the information to the organization or the person. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (61) (See also Part 4, 1. (174))
 - d) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is not only to enhance the medical service information provision system, but also to disseminate that medical institutions that have One-Stop Support Centers on site can be searched by the system. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (62) (See also Part 4, 1. (175))
 - e) In addition to the aforementioned policies, the relevant ministries are to consider policies to enhance the support system for victims of sexual crime and violence so that an appropriate response and support can be provided to various victims of sexual crimes and violence, including those with disabilities and male victims. [Cabinet Office, National Police Agency and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (63) (See also Part 4, 1. (176))
- (21) Cultivating specialists with specialized knowledge and skills concerning crime victims, etc.
- a) The National Police Agency is to encourage the Foundation of the Japanese Certification Board for Clinical Psychologists and Japanese Society of Certified Clinical Psychologists to cultivate and train certificated clinical psychologists with specialized knowledge and skills concerning crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency] (64)
 - b) The National Police Agency and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare are to collaborate to encourage the Japanese Association of Certified Social Workers, Japanese Association of Mental Health Social Workers, and Japanese Nursing Association to cultivate and train certificated social workers, mental health social workers and nurses with specialized knowledge and skills concerning crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (65)
 - c) The National Police Agency, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare are to collaborate to encourage the Japanese Association of Certified Public Psychologists and Japanese Society of Certified Public Psychologists to cultivate and train certified public psychologists with specialized knowledge and skills concerning crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (66)
 - d) In addition to the aforementioned policies, the National Police Agency is to cooperate with relevant ministries to provide necessary cooperation for the development and

training of specialists with specialized knowledge and skills on crime victims, etc. in relevant organizations and groups. [National Police Agency] (67)

- (22) Promotion to improve the understanding on crime victims, etc. through education at law schools

While each law school is to develop its diversified and unique education based on own educational principles, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to encourage law schools to make efforts to raise legal professionals, who could meet the expectations and trust from the citizens truly. Such efforts include improving the understanding on crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (68)

- (23) Provision of information on medical services of medical institutions to crime victims, etc.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to provide information on medical services of medical institutions on its website so as to make it easier for crime victims, etc. to use them, and relevant organizations are to share the information and provide it to crime victims, etc. in a timely and appropriate manner. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (69)

- (24) Proper management of various medical records of crime victims, etc.

- a) In order to prevent leakage of information with regards to the medical examination of crime victims, etc. from medical institutions or insurers, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to take measures properly against the medical institutions and insurers in accordance with the Act on the Protection of Personal Information (Act No. 57 of 2003). In addition, based on the “Guidelines on the Provision of Medical Information, etc.” (Notice of Director of Health Policy Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare dated September 12, 2003), the Ministry is to continue to request medical institutions to take appropriate measures. Further, the Medical Care Safety Support Center is to provide advice as necessary to the managers of medical institutions that have received complaints or consultations regarding medical care, including the handling of personal information. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (70)
- b) If the Financial Services Agency finds any problem with a non-life insurance company in the handling of personal information such as information on health care of crime victims, etc., the Agency is to conduct inspection and supervision of the non-life insurance company appropriately based on the Insurance Business Act (Act No. 105 of 1995). [Financial Services Agency] (71)

2 Securing Safety (related to Article 15 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Proper operation and consideration of expansion on provision of information to crime victims, etc. about offenders after the final decision or the ruling for protective measures

The Ministry of Justice is not only to continue to properly operate the victim notification scheme regarding the provision of information on matters related to the status of treatment of offenders, but also to review the modality to provide information to crime victims, etc., by comprehensively taking into consideration the operation status of the scheme and the effect on the improvement and rehabilitation of offenders as well as personal privacy issues, subsequently draw conclusions within 3 years and implement necessary policies. [Ministry of Justice] (72)

- (2) Appropriate operation of providing information on the stage of treatment of offenders under the medical supervision and treatment system

The Ministry of Justice is to endeavor to operate smoothly and appropriately the provision of information on the stage of treatment of offenders under the medical supervision and treatment system in response to a request from crime victims, etc., based on the information provision scheme regarding the stage of treatment of offenders under the medical supervision and treatment system to crime victims, etc. In addition, the Ministry is to review the modality to provide information to crime victims, etc., by comprehensively taking into consideration the matters such as the operation status of the scheme, promotion of rehabilitation of offenders under the medical supervision and treatment system and protection of personal information. [Ministry of Justice] (73)

(3) Dissemination of policies for crime victims, etc. in offender rehabilitation

The Ministry of Justice is to endeavor to publicize the policies for crime victims, etc. in offender rehabilitation and disseminate them to relevant organizations and groups by posting experiences of crime victims, etc. using the communication system of victims' sentiments to probationers/parolees on its website. [Ministry of Justice] (74)

(4) Dissemination of the victim notification scheme

The Public Prosecutors Office is not only to check the desire for notification based on the victim notification scheme when a public prosecutor interviews a crime victim, etc., but also to endeavor to disseminate the scheme by handing out the brochure "For Victims of Crime." In addition, the Ministry of Justice is to endeavor to disseminate the scheme by distributing leaflets on the system after juvenile hearings to relevant organizations. [Ministry of Justice] (75)

(5) Proper operation on provision of information on offenders

In order to prevent re-victimization, the Ministry of Justice is to continue to make efforts for thorough dissemination and smooth and proper operation of the provision of information to the police on inmates such as release schedule, expected places of living after release and peculiar trends during parole, provided by a Penal Institution, a Regional Parole Board and a Probation Office, upon request from the police, and of a communication of the risk of re-offending to the police by a public prosecutor, a Penal Institution, a Regional Parole Board and a Probation Office. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (76)

(6) Promotion by the police on the measures to prevent re-victimization

- a) In order to prevent recidivism of those who have served a term in prison for a violent sexual offense, such as an indecency through compulsion on a child under the age of 13 and have been released from the prison, the police are to receive information from the Ministry of Justice to regularly confirm their current whereabouts. In addition, the police are not only to interview the released inmates with their consent, but also to strengthen cooperation with relevant organizations and groups. [National Police Agency] (77)
- b) The police are not only to designate crime victims, etc. who may be likely to be harmed again by the same offender as persons whose re-victimization must be prevented, but also to promote measures to prevent re-victimization such as crime prevention guidance and vigilance, in close cooperation with the Penal Institution in which the offender is imprisoned. In addition, the police are to respond flexibly according to the case by cooperating with relevant organizations and considering the protection of personal information of crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency] (78)

- (7) Promotion of protective measures by the police
In order to prevent any harm by *boryokudan* (organized crime groups), the police are to designate a person who may be harmed by *boryokudan* as a person to be protected, and promote protective measures by demonstrating the total power of the police organization, including taking measures necessary for the prevention of the harm according to the degree of risk of harm. [National Police Agency] (79)
- (8) Enhancement on consideration for the safety of crime victims, etc. with respect to a bail
When an application for bail is filed for an offender, the Ministry of Justice is not only to properly reflect the opinion of a crime victim, etc. in the opinion of the public prosecutor that will be submitted to the court by contacting and interviewing the victim again as needed by individual cases, but also to endeavor to further ensure the safety of the victim by informing him/her of the results of the application for the bail. [Ministry of Justice] (80) (See also Part 3, 1. (134))
- (9) Strengthening cooperation among relevant organizations for the prevention of re-victimization
- a) The National Police Agency and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare are to strengthen further cooperation among the police, the women's counseling centers and the child guidance centers for the protection of victims of spousal violence, human trafficking and child abuse, based on the opinions and requests of crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (81)
 - b) The National Police Agency and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology are to further enhance the utilization of reporting and communication system between the police and relevant organizations such as schools, as well as the system of the Regional Council of Countermeasures for Appropriate Aid or Assistance for Children Requiring Aid and Specified Expectant Mother and the provision of guidance for juvenile offenders and their guardians, in order to prevent further damages. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (82)
- (10) Protection of information about crime victims, etc.
- a) The Ministry of Justice is not only to endeavor to thoroughly disseminate the system that requests the residence of witnesses not to be known to the parties concerned when disclosing evidence, and the system that avoids the disclosure of the name, address, and other matters that lead to the identification of the victim in the court open to the public that handles certain cases such as sexual crimes, but also to improve awareness of public prosecutors to operate more appropriately these systems including calling attention of litigants. In addition, the Ministry is to disseminate thoroughly the measures for the protection of crime victims, etc., such as accompanying persons for witnesses and shielding witnesses and endeavor to operate them more appropriately. Further, the Regional Parole Boards and Probation Offices are also to ensure the appropriate management of personal information of crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Justice] (83)
 - b) With regards to the stalking case, the Ministry of Justice is to make sure that the public prosecutors take appropriate measures as needed by individual cases after completing the necessary investigation and endeavor to properly handle the case including consideration of the protection of information on crime victims, etc. at each stage of the investigation and trial. [Ministry of Justice] (84)
 - c) The Japan Legal Support Center is to give proper guidance to its officials, including staff attorneys, to fully pay attention to the handling of personal information on crime victims,

- etc. [Ministry of Justice] (85)
- d) In order for the system of “support measures in clerical work concerning the Residential Basic Book for the protection of victims of domestic violence, stalking, child abuse and acts equivalent to these” and the “strict handling of the inspection of the extracts of the list of voters concerning victims of domestic violence and stalking” (notice of the Director of Election Division, Election Department of Local Administration Bureau at the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, dated September 29, 2017) to be strictly operated in municipalities for the protection of information on crime victims, etc., the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications is to continue to disseminate the procedures as necessary. [Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications] (86)
- e) The Ministry of Justice is not only to continue to disseminate the procedures in municipalities based on the “handling of the certificate of the matters stated in written notification in which the address and other information of domestic violence victims, etc. are listed based on Article 48, paragraph 2 of the Family Register Act” (announcement of the Deputy Director of Civil Affairs First Division 1, Civil Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Justice), the efforts based on the “method of the inspection in the case where a victim specified in Article 1, paragraph 2 of the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims is not a person obliged to register nor a person entitled to register, but the current address of the victim is listed in the attached information” (notice of the Director of Civil Affairs Second Division, Civil Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Justice dated March 23, 2012) and the procedures based on the “measures to be taken in the case where a domestic violence victim has requested the concealment of the address in the written request for paying out of deposited property” (notice of the Director of Commercial Affairs Division, Civil Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Justice dated March 31, 2015) at the Civil Affairs Bureau, but also to thoroughly manage information on crime victims, etc. through strict operation of the procedures and efforts. [Ministry of Justice] (87)
- f) The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism is not only to continue to disseminate the procedures based on the “handling of matters related to the protection of victims of spousal violence, stalking, child abuses, and acts equivalent to these in relation to the request for issuing the vehicle inspection certificate” (notice of the Director of Registration and Information Division, Road Transport Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, dated July 11, 2014) at a transportation bureau and the “handling of matters related to the protection of victims of spousal violence, stalking, child abuses, and acts equivalent to these in relation to the request for issuing the certificate of inspection” (notice of the Director of Maintenance Service Division, Road Transport Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, dated January 26, 2015) at the Light Motor Vehicle Inspection Organization, but also to thoroughly manage information on crime victims, etc. through strict operation of the procedures. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (88)
- g) As for the decision of the police upon reporting a case to the public with or without the victims’ real names, the police are to pay attention in each specific case to make the contents of the report proper by considering the situation comprehensively from various perspectives, including the protection of the privacy and the public benefit of openness of the report, in addition to taking into account the opinion of certain victims wishing anonymity in the police reports while another position requesting the police to disclose the victims’ real names based on the freedom of the press and the right to know of the public. [National Police Agency] (89) (See also Part 5, 1. (274))

- (11) Improvement of the environment of temporary protection facilities
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to endeavor to properly operate temporary protection at child guidance centers and women's counseling centers as well as temporary protection entrustment to women's protection facilities and private shelters. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (90) (See also Part 1, 3. (25))
- (12) Securing temporary residence immediately after the damage and on a medium-term basis
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote the strengthening of the staff allocation system and environment improvement in order to treat child abuse individually at a temporary shelter of child guidance center based on the "Measures to Drastically Strengthen the Prevention of Child Abuse." [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (91) (See also Part 1, 3. (26))
- (13) Improvement of systems for prevention of child abuse and early detection and response to child abuse
- a) In view of the fact that spousal violence has an adverse effect on their children, the Cabinet Office and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare are not only to enhance mental care support for children, but also to promote cooperation and collaboration with organizations in charge of treatment of spousal violence, such as the spousal violence counseling and support centers and organizations in charge of treatment of child abuses such as child guidance centers. [Cabinet Office and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (92)
 - b) The police are not only to endeavor to improve specialized knowledge and skills of the staff in charge of child abuse by thoroughly providing education and training to contribute to the early detection of child abuse, but also to strengthen responses to child abuse by placing "officers for child abuse" in the prefectural police headquarters, who will be in charge of providing guidance to police personnel about collaboration with relevant organizations such as child guidance centers and specialized response to child abuse. [National Police Agency] (93)
 - c) The Ministry of Justice is to promote the use of legal consultation aid, etc. of the Japan Legal Support Center for cases of child abuse and spousal violence that accompany child abuse, which require a legal solution. [Ministry of Justice] (94)
 - d) In order for people engaged in education at school, who are in the position to easily find child abuse in the course of their duties, to be enabled to appropriately respond to child abuse, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to urge schools and boards of education to develop the system for early detection and response and provide appropriate response. Specifically, the Ministry is not only to thoroughly make known the fact that teachers and other staff of schools are obliged to notify child guidance centers, but also to urge a regular provision of information from educational organizations to welfare organizations, utilization of training materials for teachers and participation in a joint training with the staff at child guidance centers. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (95)
 - e) In order to contribute to the prevention of child abuse in communities, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to promote efforts to provide support for education at home according to the local circumstances including the provision of opportunities for education and information, and consultations, through support teams for education at home by taking advantage of a variety of human resources

in the community, while considering families with worries and anxieties related to child-rearing who have difficulties in accessing places of education or consultations on their own. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (96)

- f) In order to contribute to the prevention of and early detection and response to child abuse, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is not only to promote the strengthening of the system at child guidance centers and municipalities, and collaboration among a variety of relevant organizations centered around child guidance centers and child-rearing without corporal punishment, but also to collect good practices across the country and disseminate them. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (97)
- g) In order to enhance support to children that accompany victims of spousal violence based on the “Measures to Drastically Strengthen the Prevention of Child Abuse,” the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to place a coordinator in charge of collaboration between women’s counseling centers and relevant organizations such as child guidance centers. In addition, the Ministry is to develop a system to enable the accompanying children to appropriately receive education by placing an education instructor at the temporary shelters of women’s counseling centers and women’s protection facilities. Further, in order to protect the accompanying children in appropriate environments, the Ministry is to promote the development of a system including the provision of mental care and individual support. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (98)

(14) Implementation of the verification of child death cases, etc. to prevent child abuse

With the aim to prevent child abuse, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to verify child death cases under the “Expert Committee for Verification of Cases Requiring Protection, such as Child Abuse” established under the Child Sub-Committee of the Social Security Council. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (99)

(15) Implementation of the education for the prevention of re-victimization

- a) The Cabinet Office is not only to promote to a trial implementation of community program to prevent violence of perpetrators as part of support for victims of spousal violence, but also to contemplate its full-scale implementation by formulating a guideline for local governments to implement the program in collaboration with private organizations. [Cabinet Office] (100)
- b) Regarding the “education from victims’ points of view” provided to inmates in correctional institutions, the Ministry of Justice is not only to endeavor to further enhance guidance for reform and correctional education, including deepening their understanding of crime victims, etc. and urging them to take specific actions, such as apology and compensation for damages with consideration of the intention of crime victims, etc. and crime victim support organizations, but also to perform review of the effects of the guidance including the manner of the provision thereof. In addition, in the case where feelings of crime victims, etc. are stated in materials sent to the correctional institutions from the Family Court or the Public Prosecutors Office, the Ministry is to endeavor that the materials will be used effectively in the guidance to the inmates. [Ministry of Justice] (101) (See also Part 3, 1. (154))

(16) Proper treatment of offenders for the prevention of re-victimization

- a) The Regional Parole Boards and Probation Offices are to endeavor to appropriately establish special conditions for parolees from penal institutions and persons under probation with suspension of execution of the sentence, which are necessary for ensuring

safety of crime victims, etc., according to the case, and the Probation Office is to provide thorough instructions and supervision to offenders to make them comply with the conditions. [Ministry of Justice] (102)

- b) As for parolees from penal institutions and persons under probation with suspension of execution of the sentence who have committed certain crimes such as stalking or spousal violence, since it is necessary to appropriately establish special conditions such as the prohibition of contact with crime victims, etc., and to provide them with instructions and supervision by properly grasping the state of compliance therewith, the Probation Office and the police are to cooperate with each other closely and continuously to quickly grasp peculiar trends of these offenders and take necessary measures. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (103)
- c) While considering the intention of crime victims, etc., the Ministry of Justice is to implement effective redemption guidance program during probation/parole thoroughly, aiming to direct the offenders to an apology and compensation for damages. [Ministry of Justice] (104)

(17) Consideration of measures to secure for the prevention of re-victimization

The Cabinet Office, National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice are to collaborate to grasp the actual situation and risk of re-victimization of crime victims, etc. from the same offenders, including cases of stalking and spousal violence, and consider measures to ensure their safety in cooperation with other relevant ministries. [Cabinet Office, National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (105)

3 Consideration in the Process of Protection, Investigation and Trial, etc. (related to Article 19 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Enhancement and other efforts with regards to trainings of staff
 - a) The Cabinet Office is not only to continue to provide training for counselors, administrative staff and medical personnel at one-stop support centers, but also to consider conducting training for the directors and coordinators of the centers from FY2021. In addition, the Office is to develop and provide online training materials so that basic knowledge on support may be acquired online. [Cabinet Office] (106)
 - b) In order to ensure appropriate support for crime victims, etc., the police are not only to enhance the education provided at the time of recruitment and promotion to a higher rank or position, the education provided to persons in charge of work requiring special knowledge, the lectures provided by crime victims and bereaved families, the mobile training provided to each police station by the crime victim support section of the police headquarter, the distribution of experience notes of crime victim support, the education on guidelines for the cooperation with private crime victim support organizations including Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc., and the education on guidelines for support for sexual crime victims, and enhance to improve the support of the staff, but also to endeavor to prevent secondary victimization. [National Police Agency] (107)
 - c) The police are to provide necessary education for police officers who handle cases of spousal violence so that the cases can be responded to appropriately. [National Police Agency] (108)
 - d) In order to further improve the skills of police officers for the interviewing of victimized children, the police are to endeavor to implement an effective training on the interviewing method to obtain a highly reliable statement while considering reducing the burden of the victimized children by introducing a practical training program based on the role playing

- system which sets up a questioning and interviewing scene. [National Police Agency] (109)
- e) In order to promote investigation and support in consideration of the feelings of sexual crimes victims, the police are to implement training at the police schools for police officers engaged in investigation of sexual crimes and support for sexual crime victims including handling cases in which a man or a sexual minority person is victimized, through lectures delivered by lecturers with specialized knowledge. [National Police Agency] (110)
 - f) In order to promote investigation and support in consideration of the characteristics of persons with disabilities, the police are to implement training at the police schools for police officers engaged in investigation and support, through lectures delivered by lecturers with specialized knowledge. [National Police Agency] (111)
 - g) Considering the importance of preventing secondary victimization, the Ministry of Justice is to enhance education and training to ensure that the staff treat crime victims, etc. properly and improve their response through implementation of lectures on themes such as “crime victim support” at various training opportunities for public prosecutors and public prosecutor’s assistant officers, dispatch of public prosecutors to Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc., implementation of lectures to the staff of correctional facilities by inviting people concerned of crime victim groups, implementation of lectures to the staff of Regional Parole Boards and Probation Offices by practitioners on crime victim support, and implementation of lectures on various issues related to crime victims, etc. on the occasions of the trainings for Victim Support Officers placed at District Public Prosecutors Offices across country. [Ministry of Justice] (112) (See also Part 4, 2. (235))
 - h) The Ministry of Justice is not only to hold seminars that will help public prosecutor executives deepen their understanding of the feelings of crime victims, etc., but also to endeavor to improve the response of the staff by dispatching public prosecutors for a certain period of time to private organizations or companies that conduct public interest activities for training purposes with a view to allowing them to actively learn common sense of citizens and to develop and acquire a wider perspective and knowledge. [Ministry of Justice] (113)
 - i) The Ministry of Justice is to hold lectures delivered by experts familiar with matters to consider when contacting child and female crime victims, etc. in training for public prosecutors and endeavor to further enhance the content of trainings on considerations towards children and women. [Ministry of Justice] (114) (See also Part 3, 1. (149) and Part 4, 2 (236))
 - j) The Ministry of Justice is to hold lectures delivered by experts familiar with matters to consider related to traffic incidents and endeavor to further enhance the content of trainings on traffic incidents such as providing opportunities for deepening the understanding toward the position of crime victims, etc. in training for assistant-public prosecutors. [Ministry of Justice] (115) (See also Part 3, 1. (148))
 - k) The Ministry of Justice is to raise awareness of public prosecutors so that they will consider the matters such as privacy, honor, mental and physical condition as well as the social position of crime victims, etc. as much as possible, when holding an interview with them. [Ministry of Justice] (116)
 - l) The Japan Legal Support Center is to conduct training on measures for the prevention of secondary victimization in consideration of the actual situation of crime victims, etc. to the staff in charge of providing information to crime victims, etc. as the contact person and to staff attorneys. [Ministry of Justice] (117)

- m) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to support the implementation of training courses to improve the professional qualities of Commissioned Welfare Volunteers and Commissioned Child Welfare Volunteers so that they can provide community residents including crime victims, etc. with proper consultation services. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (118)
 - n) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to enhance training and advocacy in order to ensure that public shelters handle crime victims, etc. properly. In addition, while grasping the actual situation of support for sexual crime victims in women's protection facilities, the Ministry is not only to endeavor to improve the professional ability of staff by utilizing the National Liaison Council of Directors of Women's Protection Facilities and National Study Meeting of Advisors of Women's Protection Facilities, but also to promote training provided by prefectures for staff and women's counselors at women's counseling centers and women's protection facilities. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (119)
- (2) Assignment of female police officers
The police are to endeavor to assign female police officers to the sections in charge of sexual crime investigation at police headquarters and police stations, improve staff members' practical skills, utilize counseling rooms and vehicles for victim support when questioning, and strengthen collaboration with Japan Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, private crime victim support groups, such as Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc. and One-Stop Support Centers, by building a network with these organizations, and to take measures in consideration of the feelings of sexual crime victims. [National Police Agency] (120)
- (3) Consideration when interviewing a child victim
The National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare are not only to take measures such that relevant organizations such as the police, Public Prosecutors Offices, and Child Guidance Centers hold discussions prior to interviewing a child victim and the representative of the relevant organizations conduct the interview, but also to promote efforts to consider the place, frequency and method when interviewing. [National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (121)
- (4) Appropriate operation of measures such as video links
The Ministry of Justice is to make the measures for the protection of crime victims, etc., such as video links, well known to the public and to make efforts for still more appropriate operation of such protective measures. [Ministry of Justice] (122)
- (5) Improvement of facilities for crime victims, etc. at the police
The police are not only to make use of the room for questioning victims and vehicles for victim support, but also to endeavor to improve these facilities. [National Police Agency] (123)
- (6) Placing waiting rooms for crime victims, etc. at the Public Prosecutors Office
The Ministry of Justice is to establish waiting rooms exclusively for victims at Public Prosecutors Offices when they are rebuilt, if rebuilding is scheduled. Otherwise, the Ministry is to consider establishing waiting rooms exclusively for victims at other Public Prosecutors Offices while taking into account space availability and installation location. [Ministry of Justice] (124)

Part 3: Efforts to Broaden the Opportunity for Victims to Participate in Criminal Procedures

1 Development of the System to Expand Opportunities to Participate in Criminal Procedures, etc. (related to Article 18 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Prompt and secure acceptance of damage reports
The police are to accept promptly and securely damage reports submitted by crime victims, etc. unless the claims are obviously false or extremely unreasonable. [National Police Agency] (125)
- (2) Proper responses to criminal complaints
Although there are cases in which it is not appropriate to immediately accept a criminal complaint because when a complaint does not constitute a crime obviously or lacks satisfactory evidence, an explanation is provided to the complainant in this regard and the measures might be taken such as letter of complaint to be corrected or an explanation material to be added, the National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice are to continue to endeavor to respond to complaints as promptly as possible. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (126)
- (3) Promotion of collection of evidentiary materials from sexual crime victims at medical institutions
 - a) In preparation for a case where a sexual crime victim who was hesitant to submit a damage report to the police in the beginning decides to submit a complaint to the police on a later day, the police are to promote efforts to provide cooperative medical institutions with evidence collection kits of sexual crimes to collect evidentiary materials from the body of the sexual crime victims at the medical institutions. In addition, the police are to take into consideration the protection of the privacy of the sexual crime victims when storing the evidentiary materials. [National Police Agency] (127)
 - b) The police are not only to instruct doctors how to collect evidentiary materials from sexual crime victims by utilizing the network with Japan Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, but also to provide information on the status of expert examination of the evidentiary materials collected at medical institutions to the extent that the investigation is not hindered. [National Police Agency] (128)
- (4) Raising awareness of the practice of issuing synopses of opening statements and its appropriate operation
The Ministry of Justice is to raise awareness on the practice to hand synopsis of opening statement and other documents to crime victims, etc. and to make further efforts for proper operation of the practice. [Ministry of Justice] (129)
- (5) Raising awareness on the system that allows the inspection and copying of trial records, and responding to inspection requests properly
The Ministry of Justice is to raise awareness, through brochures and other means, that if crime victims, etc. apply for inspection and copies of the trial records of a criminal case and if such an application is found to be appropriate, the inspection and/or copy will be allowed even if the case is still not finalized.
In addition, regarding whether or not the addresses of the defendants and witnesses are

disclosed to crime victims, etc. when they inspect the finalized criminal record, the determination should be made by comparing the necessity to ensure the impartiality of the trial with the harmful effects that may be produced by the disclosure to the public, and the Ministry is to make efforts to respond to this matter appropriately by considering the request for protection of crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Justice] (130)

- (6) Improvement in communication between crime victims, etc. and public prosecutors
 - a) In order to more appropriately grasp the opinions of crime victims, etc. and reflect them appropriately in criminal trials, the Ministry of Justice is to endeavor to further enhance communication between crime victims, etc. and public prosecutors and accurately prove the damage situation by means such as establishing the evidence of damage situation by a record of the statement, and utilizing the examination of witnesses and opinions of crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Justice] (131)
 - b) The Ministry of Justice is to endeavor to ensure that the public prosecutor will not only provide necessary explanations about the progress and results of the pretrial conference procedure for criminal trials at an appropriate moment according to the intention of the crime victims, etc., but also give necessary consideration such as informing the intention of the participating victim to the court when he/she wishes to attend the pretrial conference procedure and the public prosecutor finds it reasonable. In addition, if the crime victims, etc. wish to observe a public trial, the Ministry is to endeavor to take appropriate measures so that the public prosecutor will communicate sufficiently with them for designating the trial date and inform the court of their intention. [Ministry of Justice] (132)
- (7) Trial proceedings comprehensible to citizens
The Ministry of Justice is to make efforts so that public prosecutors present the case in the trial comprehensibly to citizens by adopting more visual presentations. [Ministry of Justice] (133)
- (8) Enhancement on consideration for the safety of crime victims, etc. with respect to a bail
When an application for bail is filed for an offender, the Ministry of Justice is not only to properly reflect the opinion of a crime victim, etc. in the opinion of the public prosecutor that will be submitted to the court by contacting and interviewing the victim again as needed by individual cases, but also to endeavor to further ensure the safety of the crime victim by informing him/her of the results of the application for the bail. [Ministry of Justice] (134) (See also Part 2, 2. (80))
- (9) Hearing the opinions from crime victims, etc. with respect to appeal
The Ministry of Justice is to endeavor to ensure that when the public prosecutor considers whether or not an appeal against the sentence to a crime against the victim, the prosecutor is to take appropriate measures such as hearing the victim's opinion while taking into consideration the content of the case. [Ministry of Justice] (135)
- (10) Dissemination of various systems for the opinion hearings on juvenile protection cases
The Ministry of Justice is to raise public awareness on the various systems such as opinion hearings, inspection and copies of records and notification of judicial decision with respect to juvenile protection cases. [Ministry of Justice] (136)

- (11) Dissemination of the trial observation system for juvenile hearings
The Ministry of Justice, through brochures and other means, is to raise public awareness on the system, which has been introduced by the Act for the Partial Amendment of the Juvenile Act (Act No. 71 of 2008) to enable victims of certain serious cases to observe juvenile hearings. [Ministry of Justice] (137)
- (12) Enhancement of information provision on support at the Japan Legal Support Center
The Japan Legal Support Center is to conduct public relations activities regarding support to crime victims, etc. to be implemented by the Center through the use of media such as social media, in addition to public relations activities with various types of media. [Ministry of Justice] (138) (See also Part 4, 1. (206))
- (13) Enhancement of information provision on criminal procedures
- a) The National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice are to collaborate to enhance the content of brochures that explain criminal procedures, juvenile protection case proceedings and systems for crime victims, etc. in an easy-to-understand manner based on the opinions and requests of crime victims, etc., and endeavor to provide them with the brochures as soon as possible including the improvement of the distribution method. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (139) (See also Part 4, 1. (221))
 - b) The police are not only to improve and review the contents of the foreign language version of the “Brochure for Crime Victims,” which is prepared and distributed according to the actual situation of each prefecture, but also to endeavor to ensure its distribution and introduce it on the website. [National Police Agency] (140) (See also Part 4, 1. (219))
 - c) The Ministry of Justice is to provide information to crime victims, etc., by preparing brochures and a website in foreign languages in order to further make the system of the protection and support for crime victims, etc. known to public. [Ministry of Justice] (141) (See also Part 4, 1. (222))
- (14) Enhancement of information provision on criminal procedures and appropriate explanation to bereaved families about judicial autopsy
The National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice are to collaborate to endeavor to provide appropriate explanations about postmortem examination and judicial autopsy, including the improvement of the distribution of brochures, in consideration of the feelings of the bereaved family. In addition, in order to obtain the understanding and cooperation of the bereaved family regarding the fact that organs after the judicial autopsy may be preserved for a long period of time at the institutions where the judicial autopsy was performed, the Ministry of Justice with the cooperation of the National Police Agency and forensic medicine institutions is to endeavor to ensure that appropriate explanations are provided. Further, the Agency and the Ministry are to consider the appropriate procedures for returning organs of the dead to the bereaved family in coordination with forensic medicine institutions. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (142)
- (15) Promotion of appropriate return/disposal of material evidence according to the intentions of crime victims, etc.
The police are not only to take care not to lose, damage, alter, deform, mix or scatter material evidence, and strive to preserve the evidential capacity, but also to endeavor in coordination with the Public Prosecutors Office to consult with crime victims, etc. about how to restore material evidence, which is no longer required to be stored for purposes of investigation, and

subsequently return or dispose of material evidence according to their intentions. [National Police Agency] (143)

(16) Handling evidence appropriately

Considering the feelings of crime victims' bereaved families, the Ministry of Justice is to make efforts to restore evidence to them with attention to the risk of influencing investigations and trials, and to explain when and how to restore it to them where necessary. The Ministry is to continue to appropriately carry out this practice. [Ministry of Justice] (144)

(17) Appropriate provision of information concerning investigation

- a) The police are to endeavor to thoroughly disseminate and utilize the system for contacting victims and provide information on the situation of the investigation in response to the requests of crime victims, etc., while taking into account the possibility to hinder the investigation. In addition, the police are to cooperate with private victim-support groups such as Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc., as necessary. [National Police Agency] (145)
- b) The Ministry of Justice is to make efforts to provide crime victims, etc. with information on the situation of the investigation and/or others in a prompt and appropriate manner while taking into account the possibility to hinder the investigation. [Ministry of Justice] (146)

(18) Further promotion of precise and appropriate traffic accident investigations, etc.

The police are not only to promote appropriate and detailed investigations of serious and vicious traffic accidents by ensuring that a supervising officer of traffic accident incident investigation with abundant investigation experience and a traffic accident forensics examiners with a lot of training on scientific analysis of traffic accidents go to the site of the traffic accident in order to take command of the investigation, such as collection of objective evidences, but also to further promote efforts considering the feelings of traffic accident victims such as the enhancement of a variety of trainings to investigators. [National Police Agency] (147)

(19) Enhancement of the lectures concerning traffic accidents

The Ministry of Justice is to hold lectures delivered by experts familiar with matters to consider related to traffic incidents and endeavor to further enhance the content of trainings on traffic incidents such as providing opportunities for deepening the understanding toward the position of crime victims, etc. in training for assistant-public prosecutors. [Ministry of Justice] (148) (See also Part 2, 3. (115))

(20) Enhancement of training for public prosecutors with respect to consideration for child and female crime victims, etc.

The Ministry of Justice is to hold lectures delivered by experts familiar with matters to consider when contacting child and female crime victims, etc. in training for public prosecutors and endeavor to further enhance the content of trainings on considerations towards children and women. [Ministry of Justice] (149) (See also Part 2, 3. (114) and Part 4, 2. (236))

(21) Appropriate provision of information concerning non-prosecution cases

- a) The Ministry of Justice is to continue to make each Public Prosecutors Office that keeps records of non-prosecuted cases get thoroughly acquainted with a flexible disclosure of

the records of non-prosecution cases. In addition, the Ministry is to continue to endeavor to take appropriate measures regarding the expansion of scope of the disclosure of records of non-prosecution cases while considering the request for protection of victims. [Ministry of Justice] (150)

- b) The Ministry of Justice is to make efforts so that public prosecutors, upon request from the crime victims, etc., provide adequate explanations on the disposition of non-prosecution and its reason before or after the disposition, while taking into account the possibility to hinder the investigation [Ministry of Justice] (151)

- (22) Cooperating with the operation of the system that gives a binding effect to decisions of the Committee for Inquest of Prosecution to institute the prosecution

Regarding the system that gives a binding effect to decision of the Committee for the Inquest of Prosecution to institute the prosecution in certain cases introduced by the Act on Committee for Inquest of Prosecution (Act No.147 of 1948) after the revision by the Act Partially Amending the Code of Criminal Procedure and Other Acts (Act No. 62 of 2004), the Ministry of Justice is to continue to provide necessary cooperation toward the realization of the purpose of reflecting public opinions in execution of the right to prosecute. [Ministry of Justice] (152)

- (23) Proper operation of visits by crime victims, etc. to sentenced persons and correspondence between them

The Ministry of Justice is to endeavor that visits and exchange of letters between sentenced persons and the crime victims, etc. continue to be operated appropriately based on laws and regulations, according to the request of the crime victim. [Ministry of Justice] (153)

- (24) Enhancement of consideration for crime victims, etc. in the treatment of offenders

- a) Regarding the “education from victims’ points of view” provided to inmates in correctional institutions, the Ministry of Justice is not only to endeavor to further enhance guidance for reform and correctional education, including deepening their understanding of crime victims, etc. and urging them to take specific actions, such as apology and compensation for damages with consideration of the intention of crime victims, etc. and crime victim support organizations, but also to perform review of the effects of the guidance including the manner of the provision thereof. In addition, in the case where feelings of crime victims, etc. are stated in materials sent to the correctional institutions from the Family Court or the Public Prosecutors Office, the Ministry is to endeavor that the materials will be used effectively in the guidance to the inmates. [Ministry of Justice] (154) (See also Part 2, 2. (101))
- b) In order to contribute to the execution of protective measures, the Ministry of Justice in collaboration with relevant organizations is to collect necessary information about crime victims, etc. and properly indicate such information in the juvenile records, which compile relevant information of the juvenile such as his/her physical and mental status, family environment, behaviors in facilities and progress of treatment. [Ministry of Justice] (155)
- c) Based on the report submitted by the Legislative Council to the Inquiry No. 103, the Ministry of Justice is to consider the system to hear and communicate the sentiments of crime victims, etc. at the execution stage of the sentence, and to implement necessary measures. The Ministry is to endeavor to ensure that there will be cooperation among the Wardens of Penal Institutions, Regional Parole Boards and Directors of Probation Offices when implementing the measures. [Ministry of Justice] (156)

- d) The Ministry of Justice is not only to enhance the content of specialized treatment programs according to the underlying problems of probationers and parolees, but also to implement these programs appropriately by establishing the attendance in the programs as the special conditions. In addition, the Ministry is to implement the redemption guidance appropriately to encourage probationers/parolees to reconfirm their determination not to commit crimes again and to sincerely respond to crime victims, etc., in consideration of their intentions. [Ministry of Justice] (157)
- e) Based on the report of the “Study Group for Considering Measures for Crime Victims, etc. in Offender Rehabilitation,” the Ministry of Justice is to consider the enhancement of the improvement in access by crime victims to the communication system of victims’ sentiments to probationers/parolees and the redemption guidance program, subsequently draw a conclusion within three years, and implement necessary policies. [Ministry of Justice] (158)

(25) Enhancement of probation/parole supervision from the perspective of crime victims, etc.

Based on the report submitted by the Legislative Council to the Inquiry No. 103, the Ministry of Justice is to take the following measures including development of laws as a system to respond to the sentiment of crime victims, etc. in offender rehabilitation

- a) When Regional Parole Boards and Probation Offices take measures such as probation/parole, they are to take into consideration the sentiments regarding the damage, the situation, and other circumstances of crime victims, etc. in accordance with the measures. [Ministry of Justice] (159)
- b) Declaring the facts about the instructions to probationers/parolees for them to understand the sentiments regarding the damage, the situation, and other circumstances of crime victims, etc. and to be aware of the responsibility to restore their damage, or presenting materials relating to these facts to a probation officer or a *hogoshi* (volunteer probation officer) shall be added to the category of conditions in probation/parole. [Ministry of Justice] (160)
- c) It is to be made clear that when deciding whether or not to permit release on parole, opinions on coordination of the social circumstance and the parole are included in the opinions of crime victims, etc. heard by the Regional Parole Board upon their request. [Ministry of Justice] (161)
- d) The Ministry of Justice is to consider the operation to establish guidelines for life that encourage probationers/parolees to make a specific compensation plan and take actions to apologize to crime victims, etc. and to instruct to encourage probationers/parolees to live their lives and conduct themselves in accordance with this guideline and to enhance the instruction. [Ministry of Justice] (162)

(26) Implementation of parole examination, taking into account the viewpoint of crime victims, etc.

When the Regional Parole Board decides whether or not to permit release on parole, the Board is not only to reflect the opinions heard from crime victims, etc. in special conditions during parole as necessary, but also to endeavor to take into consideration further the opinions of the crime victims, etc. in parole examinations. [Ministry of Justice] (163)

(27) Enhancement of training for the staff of Regional Parole Boards

Regarding the training of members of the Regional Parole Board that decides whether or not to permit release on parole, the Ministry of Justice is not only to hold lectures to properly

reflect the opinions of crime victims, etc. in parole examinations, but also to continue to endeavor to enhance the content of the training so that hearing for parole examinations are conducted by further taking into consideration the feelings and the situation of crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Justice] (164)

(28) Enhancement of trainings for officials of the correctional institutions

Regarding the training of new employees and novice leader candidates of correctional facilities, the Ministry of Justice is to continue not only to conduct lectures on themes such as “crime victims’ points of view,” but also to enhance the content of the training for senior executive candidates to deepen their understanding of the feelings and the situation of crime victims, etc. by inviting people concerned of crime victim organizations. [Ministry of Justice] (165)

Part 4: Efforts to Improve the Systems to Support Crime Victims, etc.

1 Consultation and Provision of Information, etc. (related to Article 11 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Promotion of comprehensive and planned support for crime victims, etc. in local governments
In order to contribute to providing comprehensive and planned support for crime victims, etc. in local governments from the perspective of crime victims, etc., the police are not only to provide information appropriately on the situation of the enactment of prefectural/municipal ordinances of establishment of plans or guidelines which incorporate effective matters for support for crime victims, etc. such as an ordinance aimed at support for crime victims, etc., but also to cooperate to contribute to the consideration of the enactment of ordinances, and the inspection and assessment of the situation of implementation of the ordinances in local governments. [National Police Agency] (166)
- (2) Promotion of public awareness of the comprehensive support services in local governments
The National Police Agency is to regularly check the department in charge of policies for crime victims, etc. and the comprehensive support services in local governments. In addition, in order to raise public awareness on the comprehensive support services and support measures in local governments, the Agency is to endeavor to enhance public relations efforts utilizing websites, posters, leaflets, and social media. Further, the Agency is to request local governments to make local residents including crime victims, etc. get acquainted with the consultation services and various systems such as the comprehensive support services through the enhancement of the website on support for crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency] (167)
- (3) Improvement of the comprehensive support services in local governments
The National Police Agency is not only to provide good practices of comprehensive support services and advanced and proactive practices of support for crime victims, etc., but also to request local governments to enhance the functions of consultations such as comprehensive support services, through the holding meetings of the directors of the departments in charge of policies for crime victims, etc. of prefectures and ordinance-designated cities, training local government staff and distributing the “Newsletter on Policies for Crime Victims, etc.” [National Police Agency] (168)
- (4) Utilization of specialists and further enhancement and strengthening of cooperation and collaboration in local governments
In order to effectively support the lives of crime victims, etc., the National Police Agency is to encourage local governments to utilize specialists such as certificated social workers, mental health social workers, certified public psychologists, and certificated clinical psychologists for supporting crime victims, etc. The Agency is also to request local governments to further enhance and strengthen cooperation and collaboration between the comprehensive support services in local governments and relevant organizations and groups so that crime victims, etc. can access to support by specialists as soon as possible. [National Police Agency] (169)
- (5) Enhancement and strengthening of cooperation and collaboration among local governments
The National Police Agency is to cooperate to implement training for staff in municipalities in charge of support for crime victims, etc. provided by prefectural governments so as to enhance

and strengthen cooperation and collaboration among municipal governments in each prefecture. In addition, the Agency is to make lists of contact points on support for crime victims, etc. in local governments and promote information sharing among local governments in preparation for cases that require coordination and cooperation across local governments. [National Police Agency] (170)

- (6) Training and raising awareness of the staff of local governments involved in policies for crime victims, etc.

In order to train and raise awareness of the staff of local governments, the National Police Agency is to hold “lectures on policies for crime victims, etc.” for staff of relevant ministries and local governments by inviting crime victims, etc. or experts on support for them. In addition, the Agency is not only to provide the latest information on the policies for support for crime victims, etc. through meetings of the directors of departments in charge of policies for crime victims, etc. of prefectures and ordinance-designated cities, but also to endeavor to provide materials on crime victims, etc. including advanced and proactive practices in local governments. [National Police Agency] (171)

- (7) Strengthening the system of the One-Stop Support Center

The following measures are to be promoted to strengthen the system of the One-Stop Support Center;

- a) The Cabinet Office, in cooperation with relevant ministries, is to endeavor to stabilize the operation and improve the quality of the One-Stop Support Center including efforts to make it available 24/7, promote to develop base hospitals, establish a regional cooperation system including allocation of full-time coordinators, develop human resources based on the enhancement of expertise, and secure the operation system and appropriate treatment of support staff. In addition, the Office is not only to disseminate the nationwide abbreviated number “# 8891,” but also to endeavor to develop a system to facilitate consultation by establishing call centers that provide consultations even at night and on holidays, developing a support system to access to emergency matters in communities and increasing the number of victim support centers in accordance with the actual situation of each prefecture. Furthermore, the Office is to review the operation of the nationwide abbreviated number. [Cabinet Office] (172) (See also Part 2, 1. (59))
- b) The National Police Agency is not only to provide information on the One-Stop Support Center to the department in charge of policies for crime victims, etc. in local governments, but also to endeavor to provide materials including practices at the One-Stop Support Center in order to enhance the support of victims of sexual crime and violence in communities in cooperation with the Cabinet Office and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. [National Police Agency] (173) (See also Part 2, 1. (60))
- c) When there is consultation from a crime victim support organization or a person related to healthcare including a doctor about the opening of a One-Stop Support Center, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to collect information on medical institutions that can cooperate and provide the information to the organization or the person. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (174) (See also Part 2, 1. (61))
- d) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is not only to enhance the medical service information provision system, but also to disseminate that medical institutions that have One-Stop Support Centers on site can be searched by the system. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (175) (See also Part 2, 1. (62))
- e) In addition to the aforementioned policies, the relevant ministries are to consider policies

to enhance the support system for victims of sexual crime and violence so that an appropriate response and support can be provided to various victims of sexual crimes and violence, including those with disabilities and male victims. [Cabinet Office, National Police Agency and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (176) (See also Part 2, 1. (63))

- (8) Provision of information of emergency contraception for sexual crime victims
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to provide information through public health centers and women's health support centers so that people who need emergency contraception, including sexual crime victims, may obtain information on the matter. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (177) (See also Part 2, 1. (57))
- (9) Utilization of nurses to address to sexual crime victims
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote enlightenment to medical institutions on the utilization of nurses and midwives with specialized knowledge and skills to assist sexual crime victims with the cooperation of the Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (178) (See also Part 2, 1. (58))
- (10) Improving the response to students who have been victimized of sexual crimes
The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is not only to endeavor to enhance the educational counseling system to enable class teachers, student guidance teachers, nursing teachers and school counselors to cooperate with one another to provide an appropriate response to consultations of children subjected to a sexual crime and their guardians, but also to promote active coordination with relevant organizations. In addition, the Ministry is to make known the 24-hour emergency hotlines for children and the One-Stop Support Center to children and their guardians through the board of education. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (179)
- (11) Enhancement of efforts to support victims of cases of spousal violence in local governments
The Cabinet Office is to endeavor to enhance efforts to support victims of spousal violence by strengthening cooperation with relevant departments of prefectures and municipalities and other relevant organizations. [Cabinet Office] (180)
- (12) Support for the training civil supporters who can play the role of coordinators
The National Police Agency, with the cooperation of the relevant ministries that have jurisdiction over the system for supporting crime victims, etc., is to provide cooperation to private victim-support organizations such as providing advice on the content of training delivered by the organizations or dispatching lectures to the training and to support the training of private supporters who can play the role of coordinators to manage general support (provision of consultation and information for necessary support, building bridges between appropriate relevant organizations and groups) for crime victims, etc. including sexual crime victims. In addition, the Agency is to endeavor to implement training where local government staff and civil supporters may participate so as to promote the development of a support system for crime victims, etc. in the community. [National Police Agency] (181) (See also Part 4, 2. (239))
- (13) Enhancement and reinforcement of cooperation and collaboration between the police and

relevant organizations and groups, and enhancement of provision of information

The police are not only to enhance and strengthen cooperation and collaboration with organizations and groups related to support for crime victims, etc. and endeavor to explain to them systems for these organizations and groups with regards to support for crime victims, etc., but also to endeavor to always have guidebooks and application forms regarding the systems related to these organizations and groups as well as ministries with the cooperation of relevant ministries that have jurisdiction over the systems for supporting crime victims, etc. and to provide these materials to crime victims, etc. who need them. [National Police Agency] (182)

(14) Promotion of collaboration among the Liaison Conference for Victim Support and the Local Network for Victim Support

The police, with the cooperation of the 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, are not only to strengthen collaboration and cooperation among members of the Liaison Council for Victim Support and the Local Network for Victim Support, which are established at the level of police headquarters or police stations, consisting of local governments, District Public Prosecutors Offices, bar associations, medical associations, social workers associations, mental health social workers associations, certified public psychologist-related organizations, clinical psychologist associations and private organizations that support crime victims, but also to improve its capacity to handle specific cases in various fields such as life reconstruction, medical care and trials through the implementation of practical simulated training assuming cases with a large number of the dead and injured. [National Police Agency] (183)

(15) Improvement of consultation system in the police

- a) The police are not only to provide consultations through the nationwide exclusive police consultation telephone number “# 9110,” and at the individual consultation services, such as sexual crime damage consultation and juvenile consultation, regardless of the address of the crime victim, etc., and their real names or anonymous, but also to take into consideration of the provision of information on relevant organizations and groups that participate in the network, such as the Liaison Council for Victim Support in the police headquarters or police stations according to the request of crime victims, etc. and of the utilization of the networks of other police headquarters or police stations. In addition, in order to detect crimes which are not likely to be reported by victims nor to be exposed, and arrest such offenders as early as possible, the police are to promote appropriate operation of the “anonymous reporting hotline” that receives anonymous calls on crimes involving *boryokudan* (organized crime groups), juvenile welfare crimes, child abuses and human trafficking and pays an information provision fee to persons who provide valid information. Further, the police are not only to explain the overview of the insurance claim and damage compensation claim systems and introduce a variety of consultation services in response to consultations from traffic accident victims, but also to endeavor to respond appropriately, such as to provide necessary information to bereaved families of death accidents, when they ask the date for the opinion hearing about the offenders of the accidents and results of administrative dispositions. [National Police Agency] (184)
- b) With regards to counseling on sexual crime damages, the police are not only to ensure a response by a staff member of the desired gender of the persons seeking consultation, but also to operate the system appropriately, such as to ensure that when the staff member is

off-duty, another person on duty responds properly and hand over him/her. [National Police Agency] (185)

- (16) Development of an environment for juvenile victims to easily consult in the police
In order to enable juvenile victims to receive quick and appropriate support, the police are not only to conduct effective dissemination and public relations activities for juvenile victims and their guardians by posting consultation services on the prefectural police website and social media, as well as making use of a variety of opportunities such as delinquency prevention programs, but also to develop an environment for juvenile victims, etc. to easily consult, such as the establishment of a youth support center outside the police facilities, the development of children consultation office, the provision of toll-free call for youth consultations and the opening of a consultation service by e-mail. [National Police Agency] (186)
- (17) Utilization of the designated victim support personnel system
The police, with the cooperation of the 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, are actively to take advantage of the designated victim support personnel system in which a pre-designated police staff (designated victim support personnel) not only accompanies crime victims, etc. immediately after the occurrence of the incident and provides guidance, advice and information to them, but also introduces an external counselor, a bar association, a relevant organization or a private organization that supports crime victims, etc. In addition, the police are to endeavor to enhance the training and education for the designated victim support personnel on knowledge necessary for support for crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency] (187)
- (18) Promotion of consultation activities for traffic accidents
The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism is to promote the activities of the traffic accident consultation centers in local governments, such as the capacity building of traffic accident consultants in local governments through trainings and manuals, with the aim to help traffic accident victims. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (188)
- (19) Support for victims of public transport accidents
The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism has established the Public Transportation Disaster Victims Assistance Office, responsible for (1) consultation for providing information when a public transport accident occurs, and (2) coordination of medium- to long-term support from the occurrence of the accident so that they may lead a normal life again, and provide support for victims, etc. of public transport accidents. The Ministry is to continue to steadily promote support for public transport accident victims by building networks with external relevant organizations and promoting the preparation of a support plan for them. [Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (189)
- (20) Promotion of training for the staff of women's counseling centers
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote the implementation of specialized training to the staff of women's counseling centers so that they may deepen their understanding of the rights of women subjected to spousal violence and characteristics of the violence. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (190)
- (21) Promotion of measures against stalking cases

The Cabinet Office is to promote measures against stalking cases by making efforts, such as to develop support staff members to provide effective and continuous support depending on the support needs of the victims, etc. [Cabinet Office] (191)

(22) Appropriate response to stalking cases

Based on the “Comprehensive Measures against Stalking Offences” (decided by the Meeting of Relevant Ministries and Agencies for Comprehensive Measures against Stalking Offences on March 20, 2015 and amended on April 24, 2017), the police, in cooperation with relevant ministries, are to take various measures (enhancement of provision of consultations to victims, thorough protection of information on the victims, promotion of support related to appropriate evacuation of crime victims, promotion of investigative research and public relation and enlightenment activities, promotion of measures against offenders and measures for the provision of support) and promote quick and accurate response by preferentially ensuring the safety of victims in cooperation with relevant organizations and groups. [National Police Agency] (192)

(23) Promotion of protection of trafficking victims

With regards to measures against trafficking in persons, the “Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons,” composing Cabinet Ministers of relevant ministries, is to be convened as necessary, and various measures including information provision to citizens and provision of support to victims is to be promoted based on the “Japan’s 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons” (decided by the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime on December 16, 2014). [Cabinet Secretariat] (193)

(24) Improvement of the consultation system concerning online harassment including on social media and strengthening of public relations and raising awareness activities to prevent harassment

In cooperation with relevant ministries, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications is to endeavor to improve the system so that it may appropriately respond to consultations from crime victims, etc. regarding online harassment including on social media, and to strengthen public relations and raising awareness activities to prevent harassment. [Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications] (194) (See also Part 5, 1. (264))

(25) Reinforcement of collaboration between Public Prosecutors Offices and organizations specialized in welfare or psychology for the crime victim support activities implemented by the Public Prosecutors Offices

The Ministry of Justice is to take appropriate measures for the crime victim support activities implemented by the Public Prosecutors Offices on the basis of the professional legal knowledge of criminal procedures and practical experiences on investigation and trials, with understanding on the situation of crime victims, etc., and to reinforce the Office’s collaboration with organizations specialized in welfare or psychology. [Ministry of Justice] (195)

(26) Enhancement and reinforcement of cooperation and collaboration between Victim Support Officers and relevant organizations and groups and enhancement of information provision at the Public Prosecutors Office

The Ministry of Justice is to strive to provide necessary information such as the contact information of Victim Support Officers to crime victims, etc. seeking consultation services of

the Public Prosecutors Office in an easy-to-understand manner by enhancing and strengthening cooperation and collaboration between Victim Support Officers and relevant organizations and groups. In addition, with the cooperation of the relevant ministries that have jurisdiction over the system for supporting crime victims, etc., the Ministry is to endeavor to provide more information, such as providing a guidebook and application form regarding the system related to these organizations and groups as well as relevant ministries. [Ministry of Justice] (196)

- (27) Enhancement of support through collaboration with *hogoshi* (volunteer probation officers) in charge of victims at Probation Offices and cooperation and collaboration with relevant organizations and groups

The Ministry of Justice ensures probation officers and *hogoshi* (volunteer probation officers) in charge of victims at Probation Offices collaborate to listen to worries and concerns of crime victims, etc., and introduce an appropriate organization/group to them according to their needs, and continuously endeavors to enhance the support by strengthening cooperation and collaboration with relevant organizations and groups in the future as well. [Ministry of Justice] (197)

- (28) Enhancement of training for probation officers and *hogoshi* (volunteer probation officers) in charge of victims

The Ministry of Justice provides training to probation officers and *hogoshi* (volunteer probation officers) in charge of victims at Probation Offices through lectures provided by a variety of crime victims, etc. and practitioners involved in their support with a view to deepening the understanding of their feelings and situation and ensuring that an appropriate response to be provided, and is to continue not only to improve the skills of probation officers and *hogoshi* (volunteer probation officers) in charge of victims through the enhancement of the content of the training to thoroughly prevent secondary victimization but also to endeavor to appropriately implement policies for crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Justice] (198)

- (29) Consideration of operational improvement and system revision based on the opinions of crime victims, etc.

Based on the report of the “Study Group for Considering Measures for Crime Victims, etc. in Offender Rehabilitation,” the Ministry of Justice is to consider operational improvement and system revision based on the opinions of crime victims, etc., subsequently draw a conclusion within three years and implement necessary policies. [Ministry of Justice] (199)

- (30) Dissemination of the counseling centers for crime victims, etc. and enhancement of training systems

The Ministry of Justice is to continue to make known the human rights counseling provided by the Human Rights Bodies and the investigation and remedy systems for human rights violation cases. In addition, in order to make known the gist and the content of the initiatives of the Human Rights Bodies, such as the “Children’s Rights Hotline,” “Children’s Rights SOS Mini-Letters,” “Women’s Rights Hotline,” “Human Rights Counseling on Social Media,” and “Human Rights Counseling Service on the Internet,” the Ministry is to further enhance public relations activities. Furthermore, the Ministry is to endeavor to further enhance the training so that counselors can understand the situation of clients such as crime victims, etc. and take appropriate measures when counseling on human rights. Moreover, the Ministry is to continue to endeavor to implement appropriate and sufficient trainings to enable Human Rights Volunteers, who are private volunteers appointed by the Minister of Justice, to handle human

rights issues including crime damages through various trainings including the training for newly appointed volunteers. [Ministry of Justice] (200)

(31) Support of victimized children

When a case of human rights violation is suspected during consultations from children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities, the Ministry of Justice, in cooperation with relevant organizations, is to investigate it as a human rights violation case and take appropriate measures according to the case. [Ministry of Justice] (201)

(32) Enhancement of response to consultations on human rights from the elderly and persons with disabilities

The Ministry of Justice is to continue to enhance response to consultations on human rights from the elderly and persons with disabilities as well as people with many opportunities to be closely in contact with them by establishing a special human rights counseling centers in social welfare facilities such as welfare facilities for the elderly and support facilities for persons with disabilities. [Ministry of Justice] (202)

(33) Consideration of support provided by the Japan Legal Support Center

- a) The Japan Legal Support Center is to endeavor to introduce the optimal legal system and consultation services according to the individual situation of crime victims, etc. by appropriately listening to the situation of them while considering their feelings, and develop a system to refer to attorneys who are familiar with crime victim support in collaboration with bar associations, etc. [Ministry of Justice] (203)
- b) The Japan Legal Support Center is to maintain and strengthen cooperation and collaboration with relevant organizations and groups by ensuring each of its local offices to participate in the Liaison Conference for Victim Support and its subcommittees to exchange and hear opinions, and endeavor to serve as a coordinator to refer crime victims, etc. to appropriate specialized organizations and groups according to their characteristics and the content of consultations. [Ministry of Justice] (204)
- c) The Japan Legal Support Center is to provide support to crime victims through the provision of information, regardless of the length of time that has passed since the time of the damage. [Ministry of Justice] (205)
- d) The Japan Legal Support Center is to conduct public relations activities regarding support to crime victims, etc. to be implemented by the Center through the use of media such as social media, in addition to public relations activities with various types of media. [Ministry of Justice] (206) (See also Part 3, 1. (138))
- e) The Japan Legal Support Center is to provide appropriate legal support that contributes to their life reconstruction based on the Civil Legal Aid System to elderly people and persons with disabilities who cannot be expected to seek legal services by legal expert on their own due to insufficient cognitive functioning. [Ministry of Justice] (207)
- f) The Japan Legal Support Center is to provide victims of stalking, spousal violence and child abuse, which may develop into a serious damage, with appropriate legal support, which does not require examination of financial state in advance. [Ministry of Justice] (208)

(34) Examination of financial assistance for crime victim support by attorneys

Regarding financial assistance for crime victim support by attorneys, the Ministry of Justice is to examine the scope of crime victims and attorneys' activities which will be covered by

financial assistance, how to assist, etc. including whether or not a revision is required. [Ministry of Justice] (209)

(35) Support by the community general support centers

The community general support centers are to promote advocacy services, including the response to abuse of elderly people. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (210)

(36) Enhancement of collaboration and the consultation system in schools

- a) The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is not only to increase the number of school teachers as needed, but also to endeavor to enhance the educational counseling system by the allocation of school counselors and school social workers so that consultations from victimized students, their siblings and their guardians may be continuously and properly attended in collaboration with class teachers, student guidance teachers, teachers in charge of educational counseling, school health coordinators, nursing teachers and school counselors. In addition, the Ministry is to endeavor to deepen the understanding and improve the leadership of teachers through training on crime damages so as to properly respond to consultations from victimized students and their siblings. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (211) (See also Part 4, 2. (237))
- b) The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to endeavor to enhance training to improve the abilities of nursing teachers by utilizing reference materials that summarize the manner to respond to abused children and conduct health consultations. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (212)

(37) Enhancement and reinforcement of cooperation and collaboration between the boards of education and relevant organizations and groups, and enhancement of the consultation service function in schools

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to ensure that the Board of Education enhances and strengthens cooperation and collaboration with the police station, the children guidance center, bar association, the medical association and private victim-support groups such as Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc., so that when a serious incident where a student becomes a victim occurs at school, the school functions effectively as a consultation service for the student. In addition, with the cooperation of the relevant ministries that have jurisdiction over the system for supporting crime victims, etc., the Ministry is to promote support for students and their guardians by always having guidebooks and application forms regarding the systems related to the relevant organizations and groups as well as relevant ministries and providing them to students who need them. In this case, if the offender is an insider of the school, such as a teacher or a student, the Ministry is to take sufficient care to designate a person who is comfortable for the student to talk with to serve as the counselor, such as to use the existing readily available consultation system, and to handle the situation flexibly. Furthermore, the Ministry is to promote to ensure that the Board is not only to assign specialist staff who have knowledge of psychology and pedagogy and specialists in clinical psychology to the education support center and education counseling center, and to establish a consultation service, but also to provide information to students and their guardians on relevant local organizations such as juvenile support centers, child guidance centers, welfare offices and public health centers. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (213)

- (38) Promotion of continuous support with the cases where the students victimized by the crimes refuse to attend schools
If a student who has been victimized by a crime or his/her sibling refuses to attend school, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to promote continuous support for returning him/her to school through counseling and learning guidance provided by the Education Support Center established by the Board of Education according to the individual situation of the student. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (214)
- (39) Enhancement and reinforcement of cooperation and collaboration between medical institutions and relevant organizations and groups, and enhancement of information provision by medical institutions
- a) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote not only to enhance and strengthen cooperation and collaboration between medical institutions and organizations and groups related to crime victim support, but also to implement appropriate information provision regarding support for crime victims, etc. by medical institutions. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (215)
- b) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to promote an appropriate implementation of information provision and consultations on support for crime victims, etc. provided by the mental health and welfare center and public health centers by enhancing and strengthening cooperation and collaboration between the mental health and welfare center and public health centers, and organizations and groups related to crime victim support and always having guidebooks and application forms regarding these organizations and groups and providing to crime victims, etc. who require them. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (216)
- (40) Instruction to prefectural police about support for crime victims, etc. such as providing information to them and suggestions for good practices
The National Police Agency is not only to give instruction to the prefectural police to ensure that basic measures such as providing information on crime victims, etc. are implemented, but also to suggest similar efforts by introducing good practices. [National Police Agency] (217)
- (41) Improvement of the contents of the “Brochure for Crime Victims”
- a) The police are to improve and review the contents of the “Brochure for Crime Victims”, which describes the outline of the criminal procedure, the system for crime victims, etc., and the contact information of organizations and groups that provide support for crime victims including the explanation of the policies for crime victims, etc. provided by relevant organizations, and to ensure its thorough dissemination and introduction of all these information on the website. [National Police Agency] (218)
- b) The police are not only to improve and review the contents of the foreign language version of the “Brochure for Crime Victims,” which is prepared and distributed according to the actual situation of each prefecture, but also to endeavor to ensure its distribution and introduce it on the website. [National Police Agency] (219) (See also Part 3, 1. (140))
- (42) Dissemination of the system to protect and support crime victims, etc.
The National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice are to collaborate to improve the contents of booklets and brochures that explain the outline of the system of claiming compensation for damages to protect and support crime victims, etc., and disseminate the system. [National

Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (220) (See also Part 1, 1. (3))

- (43) Enhancement of information provision on criminal procedures
- a) The National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice are to collaborate to enhance the content of brochures that explain criminal procedures, juvenile protection case proceedings and systems for crime victims, etc. in an easy-to-understand manner based on the opinions and requests of crime victims, etc., and endeavor to provide them with the brochures as soon as possible including the improvement of the distribution method. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Justice] (221) (See also Part 3, 1. (139))
 - b) The Ministry of Justice is to provide information to crime victims, etc., by preparing brochures and a website in foreign languages in order to further make the system of the protection and support for crime victims, etc. known to public. [Ministry of Justice] (222) (See also Part 3, 1. (141))
- (44) Improvement of convenience for sexual crime victims to acquire information
- The police are to endeavor to improve the convenience for sexual crime victims to acquire information upon their request in addition to the dissemination of the nationwide unified number “# 8103,” which connects the consultation hotline of the prefectural police and the distribution of the “Brochure for Crime Victims.” In addition, the police are to further endeavor to ensure that sexual crime victims may receive support from the organization as soon as possible by providing the contact information and the content of consultations to private victim-support groups such as Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc., with the consent of the victims, even when they do not want the case to be handled as a criminal case. [National Police Agency] (223)
- (45) Introduction of self-help groups
- In collaboration with private organization that support crime victims, etc., the police are to refer the crime victims, etc. to self-help groups upon their request. [National Police Agency] (224)
- (46) Enhancement of the website on policies for crime victims, etc.
- With the cooperation of relevant ministries, the National Police Agency is to utilize the website on policies for crime victims, etc. and to enhance its contents by updating information on relevant laws and regulations, counseling institutions, and other necessary information, and providing it in English. [National Police Agency] (225)
- (47) Provision of information and other supports for Japanese nationals victimized abroad
- When a Japanese person is victimized by a crime in a foreign country, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to provide information on local attorneys, interpreters, and translators, through Embassy or Consulate-General of Japan upon request. The Ministry also endeavors to provide support as far as possible. In addition, the police, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, are to endeavor to collect information on crimes committed against Japanese nationals overseas, and to support bereaved families in Japan and crime victims returning to Japan with the cooperation of private victim-support groups as needed. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Foreign Affairs] (226)
- (48) Improvement of counseling systems and promotion of the understanding of crime victims, etc. whose damages tend to be hidden

The relevant ministries are not only to endeavor to improve the system to respond appropriately to consultations from crime victims, etc. whose damages tend to be hidden, such as sexual crime victims, victimized children and persons with disabilities, but also to make known the situation and promote the understanding of them through various opportunities such as trainings and symposiums, and make efforts to foster the atmosphere in which crime victims, etc. are supported by the entire 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] (227) (See also Part 5, 1. (261))

2 Promotion of Research Studies, etc. (related to Article 21 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Conducting research to grasp the situation of crime victims, etc.
With the cooperation of the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and private organizations that support crime victims, etc., the National Police Agency is to conduct research in order to grasp the situation of crime victims, etc., including that of victims whose damages tend to be hidden.
[National Police Agency] (228)
- (2) Conducting research on the actual situation of support for victims of spousal violence
The Cabinet Office is to conduct research to grasp the actual situation of support for victims of spousal violence and sexual crime. [Cabinet Office] (229)
- (3) Conducting research on the trends in criminal damage and policies for crime victims, etc. in the Ministry of Justice
The Ministry of Justice is to conduct research on the trends in criminal damage and policies for crime victims, etc., including the consideration of investigation and analysis of the actual situation of damage according to the characteristics of crime victims, such as sexual crime victims and persons with disabilities. [Ministry of Justice] (230)
- (4) Conducting investigative research on the mental health of crime victims, etc.
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to conduct investigative research aimed to promote mental health of crime victims, etc., such as research on the actual situation of the mental health or study on treatment techniques for stress-related disorders that contribute to the recovery of mental health, and to utilize them to train specialists capable of providing high-level support to crime victims, etc. and improve the support for them. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (231)
- (5) Conducting investigative research on measures for the prevention of child abuse
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to conduct research and studies necessary to prevent child abuse. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (232)
- (6) Enhancement of trainings for the officials in the police who are, such as in charge of supporting crime victims, etc.
The police are to enhance the trainings including (1) the basic training on the support for crime victims, etc., which is to be implemented at the time of recruitment and/or promotion to higher rank or position, (2) advanced training for those officials appointed to departments in charge of support for crime victims, etc., including role-play exercise by certified public

psychologists or clinical psychologists in order to acquire practical skills for the support; and (3) basic, practical, and professional education for officials and other personnel engaging in counseling services. [National Police Agency] (233)

- (7) Acquisition of skills of police staff who provide continuous support to juvenile victims
The police are not only to endeavor to ensure juvenile guidance officials and juvenile counseling specialists, who provide continuous support to juvenile victims to acquire specialized skills such as counseling method, through lectures and training, but also to endeavor to assign staff with specialized skills. [National Police Agency] (234)
- (8) Enhancement of training on support for crime victims, etc. in the Ministry of Justice
 - a) Considering the importance of preventing secondary victimization, the Ministry of Justice is to enhance education and training to ensure that the staff treat crime victims, etc. properly and improve their response through implementation of lectures on themes such as “crime victim support” at various training opportunities for public prosecutors and public prosecutor’s assistant officers, dispatch of public prosecutors to Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc., implementation of lectures to the staff of correctional facilities by inviting people concerned of crime victim groups, implementation of lectures to the staff of Regional Parole Boards and Probation Offices by practitioners on crime victim support, implementation of lectures on various issues related to crime victims, etc. on the occasions of the trainings for Victim Support Officers placed at District Public Prosecutors Offices across country. [Ministry of Justice] (235) (See also Part 2, 3. (112))
 - b) The Ministry of Justice is to hold lectures delivered by experts familiar with matters to consider when contacting child and female crime victims, etc. in training for public prosecutors and endeavor to further enhance the content of trainings on considerations towards children and women. [Ministry of Justice] (236) (See also Part 2, 3. (114) and Part 3, 1. (149))
- (9) Improvement of capabilities of schools with respect to consultation and other responses
The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is not only to increase the number of school teachers as needed, but also to endeavor to enhance the educational counseling system by the allocation of school counselors and school social workers so that consultations from victimized school children, their siblings and their guardians may be continuously and properly attended in collaboration with class teachers, student guidance teachers, teachers in charge of educational counseling, school health coordinators, nursing teachers, and school counselors. In addition, the Ministry is to endeavor to deepen the understanding and improve the leadership of teachers through training on crime damages so as to properly respond to consultations form victimized students and their siblings. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (237) (See also Part 4, 1. (211))
- (10) Enhancement of training for personnel engaging in protection of abused children
With the aim to protect abused children and properly support their independence using professional knowledge, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is to enhance training to improve the ability of officials of relevant organizations such as child guidance centers, child welfare institutions, municipalities and health organizations. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (238)
- (11) Support for the training civil supporters who can play the role of coordinators

The National Police Agency, with the cooperation of the relevant ministries that have jurisdiction over the system for supporting crime victims, etc., is to provide cooperation to private victim-support organizations such as providing advice on the content of training delivered by the organizations or dispatching lectures to the training and support the training of private supporters who can play the role of coordinators to manage general support (provision of consultation and information for necessary support, building bridges between appropriate relevant organizations and groups) for crime victims, etc. including sexual crime victims. In addition, the Agency is to endeavor to implement training where local government staff and civil supporters may participate so as to promote the development of a support system for crime victims, etc. in the community. [National Police Agency] (239) (See also Part 4, 1. (181))

(12) Supporting the trainings held by private entities

The police, 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 are to support private organizations that support crime victims, etc. by such means as dispatching lecturers to the trainings and workshops held by private entities for their volunteers. [National Police Agency, 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] (240)

(13) Providing information and knowledge accumulated at the Japan Legal Support Center

The Japan Legal Support Center is to provide information and knowledge accumulated through crime victim support to people involved in crime victim support through training and seminars. [Ministry of Justice] (241)

3 Aid for Private Entities (related to Article 22 of the Basic Act)

(1) Enhancement on the assistance to the private entities

- a) The police and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare are not only to endeavor to enhance financial assistance to private organizations that support crime victims, etc., but also to provide support such as public relations for the activities of these organizations, arrangement of dispatch of lecturers to provide training to private citizens involved in support for crime victims, etc. and venue rental. In addition, the National Police Agency is to endeavor to provide information on good practices for establishing a financial base in private organizations. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (242)
- b) The Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism are to assist the public relations for the activities of private organizations that support criminal victims, etc., arrangement of dispatch of lecturers to provide training to private citizens involved in support for crime victims, etc. and venue rental. [Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism] (243)

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

Deposit insurance contributions that are used as a source of fund for financial damages such as remittance fraud are expected to decrease with a decrease in the number of remittance frauds. However, scholarship grant projects to children of crime victims, etc. and subsidy programs for support organizations for crime victims, etc. are to continue to be implemented.

[Financial Services Agency, Ministry of Finance and National Police Agency] (244) (See also Part 1, 2. (18))

- (3) Assistance for private organizations that support crime victims, etc.
The National Police Agency is to back up symposiums and lectures held by private organizations that support crime victims, etc., considering the repercussions of their effects, if their significance and purpose are agreeable. In addition, the Agency is to support activities of the private organizations by informing public organizations such as local governments of the holding of such symposiums and publicizing them widely using various media such as social media. Further, the Agency is to provide information on new systems and initiatives for crime victims, etc. provided by relevant ministries and private organizations by distributing the “Newsletter on Policies for Crime Victims, etc.,” which is distributed to relevant ministries and local governments, also to private organizations that ask for it. Moreover, the Agency is to encourage local governments to enhance and strengthen cooperation and collaboration with private organizations that support crime victims, etc. and to promote seamless support in communities. [National Police Agency] (245)
- (4) Public relations on private organizations that support crime victims, etc.
With the cooperation of the Cabinet Office, 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, and in coordination with government public relations, the National Police Agency is to make the public fully aware of the situation crime victims, etc., the importance of policies based on the situation and the significance and activities of private organizations that support crime victims, etc. through various media such as social media. [National Police Agency] (246) (See also Part 5, 1. (269))
- (5) Promoting further use of the donation taxation system and smooth enforcement of the Act on Promotion of Specified Non-profit Activities
The Cabinet Office, which has jurisdiction over the Act on Promotion of Specified Non-profit Activities (Act No. 7 of 1998), is to endeavor to promote the use of the donation taxation system for corporations engaging in specified nonprofit activities, which has been expanded by successive tax reforms such as the tax reform in FY2020 and enforce the act smoothly. In addition, the Office is to endeavor to provide information on civil activities, such as managing and operating the website that allows persons to search for information on corporations engaging in specified non-profit activities nationwide, including ones that support crime victims, etc. [Cabinet Office] (247)
- (6) Strengthening of cooperation and collaboration between the police and private entities
The police, with the proactive cooperation of the Cabinet Office, 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, as well as local governments, are to further strengthen collaboration with private organizations that support crime victims, etc. such as the National Network for Victim Support and to provide guidance and advice in order to enhance support for such entities. [National Police Agency] (248)
- (7) Guidance to the Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc.

The Prefectural Public Safety Commissions are to, where necessary, give guidance to the Early Support Groups for Crime Victims, etc., including by such means as the order for improvement. In addition, the Commissions are to cooperate with the operation and the activities of other private victim-support organizations to ensure their appropriate support activities. [National Police Agency] (249)

Part 5: Efforts to Foster the Understanding among Citizens and to Earn Their Consideration and Cooperation

1 Promoting Public Understanding (related to Article 20 of the Basic Act)

- (1) Promotion of school education for importance of life
The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to continue to promote education for children to understand the preciousness of life and respect irreplaceable lives based on Course of Study. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (250)
- (2) Promotion of human rights education at schools, including education on human rights concerning crime victims, etc.
On the basis of the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising (Act No. 147 of 2000), the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to endeavor to further promote human rights education in school education and social education, including the human rights of crime victims, etc. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (251)
- (3) Enhancement of learnings related to crime victims, etc. at school
The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, in collaboration with relevant organizations such as the police, is to enhance learnings about crime victims, etc. at juvenile delinquency prevention classrooms. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (252)
- (4) Efforts for participatory learnings to prevent violence toward children
The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to urge the board of education to make efforts in accordance with local circumstances in order not only to recognize that children have been victimized by bullying, abuse or violence, but also to actively learn how to deal with the matter. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (253)
- (5) Promotion of education on measures against sexual crimes and sexual assault
Based on the “Policy for Enhancement of Measures against Sexual Crimes and Sexual Assault” (decided by Liaison Conference of the Relevant Ministries and Agencies for Enhancement of Measures against Sexual Crimes and Sexual Assault on June 11, 2020), the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is not only to further promote education to teach the preciousness of lives, to value lives and to respect everybody including oneself, but also to enhance education from early childhood to prevent children from becoming a perpetrator, a victim or a spectator of sexual crimes and sexual assault in consideration of the child’s development stage. [Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (254)
- (6) Promotion of support for education concerning the value of life at home
The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is to promote support for education at home in the local community such as providing information on a variety of education at home activities including a program for guardians to learn the significance of helping their children to realize the importance of life held in communities through the website.

[Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (255)

- (7) Holding lectures delivered by crime victims, etc.

In cooperation with relevant organizations such as the Board of Education, the police are to endeavor to cultivate awareness for consideration and cooperation for crime victims, etc. by holding lectures on the “class to learn the importance of life” and holding “essay contests on protecting important lives for junior high and high school student.” In addition, the police are to endeavor to foster the atmosphere for “creating a community in which victims are supported by entire community and no victims nor no offenders will appear” by making use of various opportunities such as holding lectures delivered crime victims, etc. to widely call for citizens. [National Police Agency and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology] (256)

- (8) Public advocacy on the respect for life, body and freedom through promotion of the Law-Related Education

The Ministry of Justice is to promote efforts through the Law-Related Education Promotion Council with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Supreme Court and Japan Federation of Bar Associations, etc., so as to raise awareness of the importance of not causing damage to the life, body and freedom of other people by promoting the widespread and enlightenment of law-related education mainly at school and learning to protect oneself and respect others through law and judiciary. [Ministry of Justice] (257)

- (9) Implementation of intensive public relations and enlightenment activities during the National Crime Victims Week

With the cooperation of the Cabinet Office, 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, the National Police Agency is to establish the “Crime Victims Week” (from November 25 to December 1 annually) and implement intensive public relations and enlightenment activities during the week. In addition, the Agency is to request local governments to implement public relations and enlightenment activities especially during the week with a view to improving the understanding toward crime victims, etc. with their participation and cooperation. [National Police Agency] (258)

- (10) Implementation of active public relations and enlightenment activities for people deeply concerned with support for crime victims, etc.

The National Police Agency, with the cooperation of relevant ministries, as well as professional associations related to medicine, welfare, education and law, which are deeply concerned with support for crime victims, etc., is to implement actively public relations and enlightenment activities on the situation of crime victims, etc. and the importance of support for them, to those who belong to these organizations in order to improve their understanding and foster the atmosphere to support crime victims, etc. by the entire community. [National Police Agency] (259)

- (11) Implementation of effective public relations and enlightenment activities toward citizens

In order to help people from all walks of life get interested in support for crime victims, etc., the National Police Agency is to strive to diversify the methods and media for public relations

activities such as the diffusion of symbols and the use of websites and social media. In addition, the Agency is to provide opportunities for citizens to think about support for crime victims, etc. by soliciting slogans on the support and promote their understanding. Furthermore, in order to deepen the understanding and interest in the situation of crime victims, etc. and the importance of support for them, the Agency is to promote more enhanced enlightenment activities by getting wider cooperation from schools and private enterprises. [National Police Agency] (260)

- (12) Improvement of counseling systems and promotion of the understanding of crime victims, etc. whose damages tend to be hidden

The relevant ministries are not only to endeavor to improve the system to respond appropriately to consultations from crime victims, etc. whose damages tend to be hidden, such as sexual crime victims, victimized children and persons with disabilities, but also to make known the situation and promote the understanding of them through various opportunities such as trainings and symposiums, and make efforts to foster the atmosphere in which crime victims, etc. are supported by the entire 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] (261) (See also Part 4, 1. (227))

- (13) Information provision to support crime victims, etc.

The Cabinet Office is to provide information to support victims of spousal violence on its web site. [Cabinet Office] (262)

- (14) Public relations and enlightenment activities for young people

The Cabinet Office is to develop effectively public relations and enlightenment activities so that no young people become perpetrators or victims of sexual violence by making use of media easily accessible for young people such as social media during the “Youth Sexual Violence Prevention Month” in April every year. [Cabinet Office] (263)

- (15) Improvement of the consultation system concerning online harassment including on social media and strengthening of public relations and raising awareness activities to prevent harassment

In cooperation with relevant ministries, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications is to endeavor to improve the system so that it may appropriately respond to consultations from crime victims, etc. regarding online harassment including on social media, and to strengthen public relations and raising awareness activities to prevent harassment. [Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications] (264) (See also Part 4, 1. (194))

- (16) Implementation of public relations and enlightenment activities during a specific period related to policies for crime victims, etc.

- a) With the aim to eliminate violence against women, including sexual crimes, the Cabinet Office, in cooperation and collaboration with relevant ministries, local governments, women’s groups, and other relevant organizations and groups, is to implement public relations and enlightenment activities during the “Campaign for Eliminating of Violence against Women,” which is held in November every year. [Cabinet Office] (265)
- b) The Cabinet Office is to endeavor to implement public relations and enlightenment activities with the understanding and cooperation of traffic accident victims, etc., especially during the period of the “Nationwide Traffic Safety Campaign.” [Cabinet

Office] (266)

- c) The Ministry of Justice is to make use of a variety of media and to implement public relations and enlightenment activities such as the distribution of enlightening booklets in order to call for consideration and cooperation for human rights issue of crime victims, etc. especially during the “Human Rights Week” (from December 4 to 10 annually). [Ministry of Justice] (267)
- d) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is not only to conduct public relations activities using various media in order to widely inform the public of child-rearing without corporal punishment and of the scope, current situation and prevention of child abuse, but also to implement intensive public relations and enlightenment activities by preparing posters and holding nationwide forums in a concentrated manner during the “Child Abuse Prevention Promotion Month” in November every year. [Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare] (268)

(17) Implementation of public relations on the policies for crime victims, etc. through various media

- a) With the cooperation of the Cabinet Office, 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, and in coordination with government public relations, the National Police Agency is to make the public fully aware of the situation crime victims, etc., the importance of policies based on the situation and the significance and activities of private organizations that support crime victims, etc. through various media such as social media. [National Police Agency] (269) (See also Part 4, 3. (246))
- b) The National Police Agency is to give guidance to the prefectural police to promote public relations and enlightenment activities on the situation of crime victims, etc. and the support for them in the police, relevant organizations and private victim-support organizations by implementing press releases, street campaigns, various discussion meetings and lectures at various meetings, in cooperation with private victim-support groups. [National Police Agency] (270)
- c) The National Police Agency is to advance the citizens’ understanding on the support for crime victims, etc. by such means as the preparation of the brochure for public relations, called the “Support for Crime Victims by the Police,” and to post various policies for support for crime victims, etc. by the police on the website. [National Police Agency] (271)
- d) The National Police Agency is to make efforts to provide information to prevent juveniles from being victimized by utilizing various kinds of media, including the one accessible from smartphones. [National Police Agency] (272)

(18) Promotion of the understandings among citizens on the situation of crime victims, etc. through the publication of investigative research results

When the relevant ministries carry out research on crime victims, including policies for crime victims, etc. in other countries, the research is to be used for public relations and enlightenment activities in order to improve the understanding of the situation of crime victims, etc. through the publication of the results of investigative research. [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] (273)

- (19) Protection on the information concerning crime victims, etc.
As for the decision of the police upon reporting a case to the public with or without the victims' real names, the police are to pay attention in each specific case to make the contents of the report proper by considering the situation comprehensively from various perspectives, including the protection of the privacy and the public benefit of openness of the report, in addition to taking into account the opinion of certain victims wishing anonymity in the police reports while another position requesting the police to disclose the victims' real names based on the freedom of the press and the right to know of the public. [National Police Agency] (274)
(See also Part 2, 2. (89))
- (20) Implementation of information provision of the situation of crime occurrence in the community in consideration of the protection of personal information of crime victims, etc.
The police are to endeavor to provide information which may lead to the opportunity for local residents to actively take crime prevention measures on their initiative by posting the occurrence of crimes in the local communities including sexual crimes on the website, in consideration of the protection of personal information of crime victims, etc. [National Police Agency] (275)
- (21) Advancing the understanding among citizens by reflecting the opinions of traffic victims
- a) The police are to make efforts to advance understanding among citizens on the actual situation of traffic accident victims and the miseries of traffic accidents, by preparing publications such as booklets and brochures that compile the memoirs of traffic victims, distributing them at traffic safety workshops and holding lectures delivered by traffic accident victims in traffic safety events. [National Police Agency] (276)
 - b) The police are to implement workshops for drivers, at each prefectural police that include victims' perspectives, by effectively using videos and memoirs that reflect the poignant voices of traffic victims or lectures delivered by victims themselves. [National Police Agency] (277)
- (22) Publication of data that promote understanding of the actuality and the miseries of traffic accidents
In order to fully develop citizens' understanding of the actuality and miseries of traffic accidents, the police are to publish various kinds of data related to traffic accidents such as accident type and ages of the victims, and to make known the actual situation. [National Police Agency] (278)
- (23) Enhancement of statistical data on traffic accidents
The National Police Agency is to enhance to publicize the statistics data concerning traffic accident victims in the White Paper on Crime Victims. [National Police Agency] (279)