

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

(1) Supporting Victims to Claim the Compensation for Damages, etc.

○Main efforts

- Consideration on the support offered by the Japan Legal Support Center and implementation of the measure (Ministry of Justice)

Ministry of Justice and the Japan Legal Support Center are considering the Center to support the fee to allow the attorney to have psychological counselor present at meetings with crime victims in the process of preparation and litigation to claim compensation for damages.

(2) Improvement of the systems concerning the benefits and other payments

○Main efforts

- Improvement of the current Benefit System for Crime Victims Practices (National Police Agency)

The Benefit System for Crime Victims has been enhanced over the years, such as a major revision of the Act on July 2008 in created bereaved family benefits for the bereaved families who were in the same household economy with the victim and disability benefits for people with severe residual difficulties (disability levels 1 through 3). In addition, in October 2009, provisions of special exceptions were reviewed to enable full payment for the spousal violence case with particular necessity of the remedy. The amount of the crime victim benefits paid in the fiscal year of 2011 reached around 2,065,000,000 yen, the highest ever.

Status of the applications, judgments and decisions about benefits for crime victims

Classification	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	Compared to the previous year
The number of victims applied (number of people)	462	589	585	652	+67
The number of victims ruled (number of people)	407	566	563	715	+152
The number of victims ruled to receive the benefits	388	538	534	663	+129
The number of victims ruled against the payment	19	28	29	52	+23
Number of victims ruled to receive temporary payment (number of people)	5	7	8	4	-4
Ruled payments (Millions of yen)	907	1,277	1,311	2,065	+754

Provided by the National Police Agency

- Consultation on the feasible expansion of the Benefit System for Crime Victims and/or establishment of a new compensation system (Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health,

Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport)

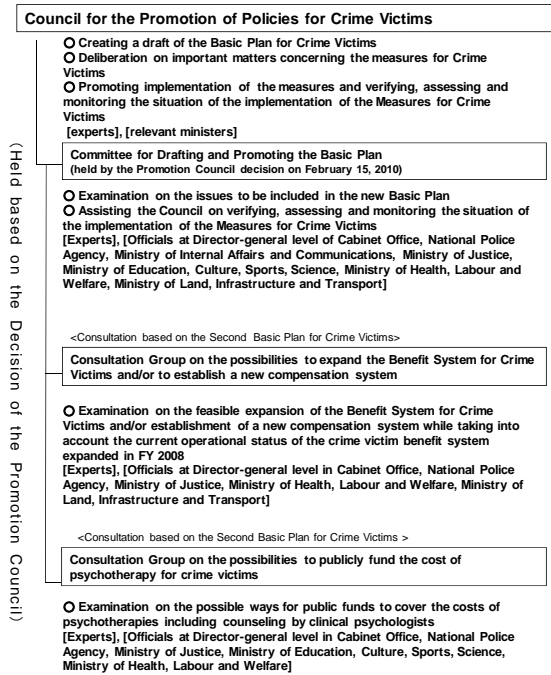
The members of the consultation group conducted hearings about the operational status of the Benefit System for Crime Victims after the enhancement, social

security systems, the payments of crime victim benefits (hearing from bereaved family) and the victims' and bereaved

families' economic situation after the victimization (hearing from victims and bereaved family).



Block diagram of the Conference Regarding Measures for Crime Victims



- Consultations on possible ways for public funds to cover the costs of psychotherapies including counseling (Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare): See Chapter 1
- Promotion for local governments to adopt consolation payment system for crime victims (Cabinet Office)
- Consideration to exclude Crime Victim Benefits from income recognition under the Public Assistance system (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
 Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has notified local governments that it is possible to exclude crime victim benefits from income recognition under the special circumstances typical to crime victims.

(3) Ensuring a Stable Residence

○Main Efforts

- Priority in tenant selection for publicly managed housings and other measures (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport)

(4) Stabilization of Employment

○Main Efforts

- Raising the awareness and promotion for the understandings on the leave system for recovering victims (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
 The surveys conducted in 2011 found that more than 90% of companies and employees were not even aware of the fact that there is an opinion to seek a leave system for the recovery when a worker was victimized by a crime. Therefore, in order to raise awareness and promote understandings for the introduction of such system at the work places, in 2011, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

created leaflets and posters and sent them to 224 organizations including economic organizations and labor organizations, and held seminars. Efforts for awareness raising and promotion will be continued in the fiscal year of 2012 also.



2. Efforts for the victims to recover from or to prevent mental and/or physical damage

(1) Provision of healthcare services and welfare services

○Main Efforts

- Providing information about medical institutions at where PTSD treatment is available (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- Enhancement of counseling opportunities offered by police for victims of sexual crimes (National Police Agency): See Chapter 1
- Effective use of nurses and other professionals to address to victims of sexual crimes (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare): See Chapter 1
- Promotion to establish one-stop support centers (Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare): See Chapter 1

(2) Securing Safety

○Main Efforts

- Enhancement on the systems of supports for child victims at schools, including

counseling system (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science)

(3) Consideration and other regards to be shown during the process of protection, investigation, trial, etc.

○Main Efforts

- Appropriate operation of measures such as video links (Ministry of Justice)

This measure consists of appropriate operation of the system to properly reflect victims' voice to court proceedings such as the statement of opinions of crime victims and the system aimed at reducing the burden and anxiety of victims during witness testimony, such as video-link and other shielding measures. Between January and December of 2011, the total number of witnesses who were allowed to have accompanying person during the witness examination was 136, the total number of witnesses who used shielding measures was 1,317, and the total number of witnesses whose examination was conducted through video link was 242.

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

(1) Development of the System to Broaden the Opportunities to Participate in Criminal Procedures

○Main Efforts

- Consideration to cover the travel and other expenses of victim participants (Ministry of Justice)
Ministry of Justice is considering the introduction of the system to reduce the burden of travel and/or other expenses borne by crime victims for them to appear to the court under the victim participation system.
- Reconsideration on the level of financial resource requirements for victim participants to be eligible for court-appointed attorneys at law (Ministry of Justice)
Ministry of Justice is reconsidering, in addition to the travel and/or other expenses of victim participants mentioned above, on the mitigation of financial resource requirements for victim participants to be eligible for the court-appointed attorneys at law.
- Enhancement of the information concerning criminal proceedings and

related issues provided to victims and others. (Ministry of Justice)

"To Crime Victims"



"What if ... you encounter a crime"



4. Efforts to improve the system to support crime victims

(1) Providing Consultation, Information and others

○Main Efforts

- Promotion to establish comprehensive response desks at local governments (Cabinet Office)
All prefectures and ordinance-designated cities have established comprehensive response desks.
- Promotion of efforts by local governments to support sexual crime victims (Cabinet Office)
- Improvement of consultation service systems at the police (National Police Agency)

Consultation Counter for Victims



(2) Promotion of researches, Studies, etc.

○Main Efforts

- Survey on violence from dating partner (Cabinet Office): See Chapter 1

(3)Assisting Private Entities

○Main Efforts

- Enhancement on the assistance to the private entities (Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport)
The Cabinet office participated in the "Project team on various issues surrounding deposit insurance payment according to the Bank Deposit Fraud Relief Law" established by Financial Services Agency and contributed to the discussion on the uses of deposit insurance payment as the grant to the crime victims support organizations or other purposes. (Cabinet Office)
- Guidance to the “early support groups for crime victims” (National Police Agency)

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

(1) Fostering Understanding among Citizens

○ Main Efforts

- Implementation of focused advocacy projects during the “crime victims’ week” (Cabinet Office)

The symbol for support of crime victims

