

# *Toward Drastic Reform of Institutional Framework of the National Statistical System in Japan*

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## *Assessment of Current Status of NSS*

- The current national statistical system was established 60 years ago.*
- The current system does not sufficiently provide appropriate data reflecting the accurate economic and social conditions, facing the change of industrial structures and survey environments, increasing needs of the diversified and advanced use of statistical information.*

• *Problems:*

- 1) *Most official statistics are produced primarily for administrative purposes;*
- 2) *Use of administrative records is limited;*
- 3) *Utilization of statistics does not sufficiently reflect the needs and advancement of ICT;*
- 4) *Under the decentralized statistical system, the coordinating agency does not play an active role.*

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*Position of SSP and its Process*

- *The Japanese Government established the “Committee for the Reform of the Statistical System”, which issued a report in June 2006.*
- *The report shows a fundamental recognition toward the statistical reform of Japan, and proposes a new framework of the development of statistics responding to the changes of the times.*

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- *The Committee, with the duties of deliberating on the drastic reform of the statistical legal system mentioned in the “Basic Policies for Economic and Fiscal Policy Management and Structural Reform 2005” (cabinet decision of 21 June 2005), was established in the Cabinet Office and it held meetings starting in September 2005.*
- *In March 2006, the Committee released the direction of its deliberations and issues to be discussed as the “Interim Report”, about which it heard views and comments widely from the organizations as well as ministries and agencies concerned.*

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### *Scope and Viewpoints of SSP*

- *From “statistics for public administration” to “statistics as information infrastructure”.*
- *Establishing a new legal system:*
  - 1) *to build appropriate disciplines and frameworks for statistics as an information infrastructure for both producers and users;*
  - 2) *to strengthen “commander functions” for developing statistics.*

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▪ *The Committee proposes:*

- 1) *to develop a legal system covering all types of statistics (survey statistics, administrative statistics and processed statistics);*
- 2) *to clarify basic principles as a standard adaptable to all the official statistics;*
- 3) *to institutionalize basic plans to develop official statistics (cabinet decisions);*
- 4) *to develop disciplines of “Key Statistics” and “General Statistics”;*
- 5) *to develop disciplines for utilizing administrative records for statistics;*
- 6) *to promote the secondary use of statistical data;*
- 7) *to establish a “Commander” for overcoming negative effects of the decentralized statistical functions.*

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*Thank you*