

Direction in Which Discussions Are Coalescing (an Overview Compiled by the Chairman)

Project Mission Statement / Current Evaluation and Issues / Basic Vision for the Future

- There is significant value in Japan's laws being publicized to the international community and to foreign nationals in Japan through the Japanese Law Translation Project.
- Moving forward, the JLT Project should focus on allocating resources and achieving results effectively in consideration of perspectives such as business support and the protection of foreign nationals in Japan, while remaining mindful of the wide scope of people who stand to benefit.
- Issues the JLT Project faces include major laws and regulations that remain untranslated and lengthening lead times on the release of translations.
- While fundamentally a government translation effort, the JLT Project should make use of private-sector technology and knowhow and ensure that users' opinions are well reflected to make it an even more accessible service.

Content Enhancements and User Service Improvements to Be Prioritized

- Considerable improvements should be made to the speed at which translations of laws and regulations are released. In particular, translations of major laws and regulations should be released in a timely fashion.
- A new service should be started to release translations for Overviews of new and amended laws
- A new service should be started to provide basic information on fields of law (via schematics), giving a general explanation of things such as the legal system and the relationships between laws and regulations, for each legal field in which a translation is released.
- New, interactive user guidance and FAQ functions should be added to the dedicated website. Information about scheduled updates (notices) and other information should be communicated to attract more users.

Additional Issues/Partnerships and Collaboration with the Private Sector, International Organizations, and Others

- Improving and expanding the dedicated website's English-language content should be the first priority, and multilingual support for languages other than English should be positioned as a mid-term issue. Things such as information that concerns the national interest or that is pertinent to people's lives should be addressed separately, as public relations releases.
- We should proceed immediately with investigating whether to use artificial intelligence in translation, while also considering factors such as technological accuracy and cost performance.
- To ensure sufficient human resources in the field of translation, we should take action such as investigating whether there should be professional credentialing for *Certified Law Translators*, working quickly to create achievable frameworks.
- In anticipation of the courts' efforts to translate case law, we should work presently to strengthen cooperation with this service.
- We should boldly pursue industry/academia/government collaboration, as well as international collaboration with organizations overseas. We should make the data from translated laws open to the private sector, and encourage efforts based on private-sector ingenuity.
- Additionally, we also expect to see Japanese laws becoming easier to understand, and anticipate that infrastructural streamlining will be undertaken to facilitate public relations initiatives concerning Japanese law, as well as international human resources and international exchange.

Implementation of the Vision for the Future and Follow Up

- The government as a whole, centered on the Ministry of Justice, should formulate a strategic vision—and streamline the framework—for publicizing Japan's laws internationally.
- The vision that will form this strategy needs to be expressed in concrete terms and reflect a sense of urgency. Some examples are:
 - As a new service, starting to release translations of information on amendments to the law (overviews of new and amended Acts) within one year's time.
 - Dealing with translation maintenance issues for major laws and regulations, as well as updating the texts of these laws and regulations in line with current statute, within three years' time.
 - Beginning extensive surveys and consultations in Japan and abroad within one year's time, moving toward the use of machine translation and industry/academia/government collaboration
- A new council with joint participation from the public sector and the private sector should be formed as the playmaker that propels this project forward.