

Special Requests/Remarks from the Private-Sector Council Members
(FY2025)

In the previous Special Requests/Remarks from the Private-Sector Council Members (FY2024), we called on the Japanese Law Translation Project to ensure that numerical targets that should be achieved in order to advance the Project are set, and that laws and regulations in priority fields (refer to the list below) for translation get released more promptly and are improved in terms of quality. We are now asking that the measures in the Special Requests/Remarks for FY2024 continue to be advanced in FY2026.

Furthermore, in light of the progress of this Project, for FY2027 and beyond, we ask for the relevant ministries and agencies to take the measures described in paragraphs 1 through 4 below.

○ Legal Fields in Which Translation Should Be Prioritized

- Fields of law connected with inward direct investment (financial laws, fields connected with the digital world, etc.)
- Intellectual property law
- Fundamental laws in the field of civil affairs (Companies Act, Civil Code, Code of Civil Procedure, etc.)
- Fields of law that concern foreign nationals residing in Japan (taxes, pensions, consumer laws, labor laws, etc.)

1. Promptly release priority laws and regulations

The materials for English translation should be categorized into (1) laws and regulations posted on the e-Gov website for which English translations have not been prepared and therefore cannot be published on JLT (referred to below as "laws and regulations not yet posted on JLT"), (2) laws and regulations amended after publication on JLT for which English translations of the amended sections have not yet been completed (referred to below as "amended laws and regulations not yet translated"), and (3) outlines of laws and regulations. Building on the efforts to date, English translations of laws and regulations not yet posted on JLT (1) and amended laws and regulations not yet translated (2) in legal fields with high priority for translation should, in principle, be released within one year from the promulgation or amendment of those laws and regulations.

Of the three categories above, amended laws and regulations not yet translated (2) should be given particularly high priority, since any delays in translating them could lead to misinterpretations and potentially undermine the credibility of JLT among external users.

If it is not feasible to translate the laws and regulations not yet posted on JLT, etc. within one year, the outlines of laws and regulations (3) should at least be published on JLT without any unnecessary delays.

2. Aim to release over 1,200 new English translations of laws and regulations from FY2027 to FY2031

In the previous Special Requests/Remarks from the Private-Sector Council Members (FY2024), we asked that over 1,000 new English translations of laws

and regulations be released during the period from FY2021 to FY2026. In light of the increasing demand for this Project, the relevant ministries and agencies should continue to set high targets and further promote the Project.

Focusing on priority fields for translation, efforts should be made in the five years from FY2027 to FY2031 to release English translations of over 1,200 (or a minimum of 1,000) laws and regulations not yet posted on JLT (1), amended laws and regulations not yet translated (2), and outlines of laws and regulations (3).

3. Aim to provide translations of all the laws and regulations posted on the e-Gov website

Although it would be preferable to have English translations of all the laws and regulations on the e-Gov website released, at present only approximately 1,000 of those laws and regulations have their English translations publicly available, which accounts for about 11 percent of the total.

Accordingly, priority should first be given to the translation of laws and regulations in priority fields, with the aim of increasing this figure to at least 25 percent (reducing laws and regulations not yet posted on JLT to 75 percent or less) over the ten-year period from FY2027 to FY2036 (approximately 134 translations per year), and that target should be revised upwards in line with advances in technology and other developments.

4. Improve the translation process to increase the number of high-quality English translations of laws and regulations

In order to significantly increase the number of high-quality English

translations of laws and regulations, improvement measures should be considered for the legal translation process, including, for example, the Japanese Law Translation System utilizing AI and the framework for reviewing English translation drafts.