

**The Third Basic Plan on Measures for Providing
Safe and Secure Internet Use for Young People**

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Introduction

Based on the Act on Development of an Environment That Provides Safe and Secure Internet Use for Young People (Act No. 79 of 2008; hereinafter referred to as the “Act on Development of Internet Environment for Young People”), the government laid down the “Second Basic Plan on Measures for Providing Safe and Secure Internet Use for Young People” (adopted by the Headquarters for the Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People on July 6, 2012; hereinafter referred to as the “Second Basic Plan”), and has since been addressing problems regarding the development of an Internet environment suitable for young people through cooperation with local public entities, private bodies and other parties concerned.

Under the Second Basic Plan, the government carried out various measures and initiatives, while giving particular attention to the following three problems: (i) responding to new devices, such as smartphones; (ii) strengthening the dissemination of information to and awareness-raising activities focused on guardians; and (iii) strengthening collaboration among the State, local public entities and private bodies. At the same time, comprehensive and intensive public relations and awareness-raising activities were carried out through cooperation and collaboration among related organizations and associations. One such example is the “Spring Safety Net Campaign with Chain of Moves in New Semester” In addition, initiatives concerning information ethics education and awareness-raising seminars on safe and secure Internet use were implemented at schools and other places where parental guardians gather, while local communities and schools took voluntary action to set rules for Internet use depending on the circumstances of respective communities. These measures and initiatives have achieved a certain degree of success.

Meanwhile, the use of a variety of equipment that allows Internet access (e.g. smartphones, mobile video game consoles, and portable music players) as well as Internet-based applications and services has spread and diffused among young people rapidly. The Internet is now accessible not only by way of telecommunication lines provided by mobile phone

carriers, but access by public wireless LAN such as Wi-Fi has also rapidly expanded. Business operations of the Internet service providers whose services may be used by young people: such as mobile virtual network operators (MVNO), have become increasingly complicated and diversified.

The government aims to make Japan the world's most advanced IT nation, and further progress is expected in digital technology innovation and development of advanced information and communication society on a global scale. Bearing this background in mind, it is necessary to promote initiatives toward the development of an environment for safe and secure Internet use for young people that anticipates the diverse methods of using the Internet at all times and places which will become further popularized and diffused among young people.

Guardians play an extremely significant role as they are responsible for appropriately being aware of, controlling and watching the Internet use by young people. There is an increase in the amount of information that young people and their parental guardians need to know, including the various types of Internet-related problems which are taking place, involving young people(e.g. leakage of revenge porn or other private images onto the Internet, which may cause irrecoverable damage to victims; problems derived from the lack of knowledge of the rule that posting slandering messages or other persons' images without permission constitutes a crime; and incidents called "flaming" of SNS or blogs).In comparison, the growth in the rate of using filtering services and software designed for parental guardians to appropriately control the Internet use by young people without supervision of their parents has been somewhat sluggish. Thus, parental guardians apparently have not been able to be fully aware of the realities of the Internet use by young people.

In light of these rapid changes in circumstances affecting the Internet use by young people, the government has revised the Second Basic Plan laid down in July 2012 to establish a new Basic Plan, in order to clarify the intensive measures to be taken over the next three years toward the development of a safe and secure environment Internet use by young people.

The review of the basic plan has been made in accordance with the following three principles for the direction of future initiatives:

(i) enhancing and strengthening effective measures for protecting young people (based on the concept of Protection of Children Online (POC) by Design), by using methods such as filtering software and services from the users' standpoint, regardless of the device or access environments;

(ii) enhancing and strengthening support for homes to ensure that parental guardians will properly fulfill their responsibilities, focusing on the daily life cycles of young people, and aiming to encourage young people to improve their Internet literacy and establish an appropriate lifestyle habits; and

(iii) gathering and sharing of information on the best practices and establishing a promotion system in consideration of the PDCA cycle based on empirical evidence .

Based on the new Basic Plan, the government, together with local public entities and private bodies, shall continue to promptly and effectively promote proactive measures designed to ensure safe and secure Internet use by young people.

Part 1 Basic Policies on Measures for Providing Safe and Secure Internet Use for Young People

1. Basic Principles

The Act on Development of Internet Environment for Young People prescribes the following basic principles for the State and local public entities to follow in formulating and implementing measures for providing safe and secure Internet use for young people.

First, young people shall be prompted to acquire skills for independently utilizing information and communication equipment, properly sorting out information available on the Internet, and appropriately transmitting information via the Internet.

Second, the chances of young people viewing content harmful to them via the Internet shall be reduced as much as possible, by improving the performance of and disseminating the use of software for filtering content harmful to young people, and through measures preventing young people from viewing content harmful to them, which shall be taken by persons engaged in businesses related to Internet use by young people.

Lastly, voluntary and independent efforts in the private sector shall play a substantial role, and the State and local public entities shall respect this, in light of the significance of free expression activities and characteristics of the Internet that enable diversified entities to engage in diverse activities to express themselves to the whole world.

2. Basic Policies

Based on the abovementioned basic principles prescribed in the Act on Development of Internet Environment for Young People, the government shall take measures for providing safe and secure Internet use for young people in accordance with the following basic policies (1) to (5).

(1) Promotion of education and awareness-raising activities for voluntary and independent Internet use by young people

In order to secure voluntary and independent Internet use by young people in accordance with their developmental stage, guidance for appropriate use of information and communication technology and information ethics education shall be provided at schools according to the

children's developmental stage. At the same time, awareness-raising activities for young people at local communities and at home shall also be promoted and supported. For example, support shall be provided with respect to efforts at home toward encouraging young people to establish an appropriate lifestyle.

(2) Implementation of awareness-raising activities for enabling guardians to properly control Internet use by young people

Awareness-raising activities for guardians shall be promoted and supported at schools and local communities, so that guardians can properly control the Internet use of young people in accordance with their developmental stage, focusing on their daily life cycles, while taking into account their Internet literacy and the status of their use of the Internet. These activities shall cover the following issues: harmful content on the Internet, risks on the Internet threatening young people, how to deal with these problems, and efforts at home toward reviewing their lifestyles (e.g. making family rules on Internet usage).

(3) Encouraging efforts by business operators, etc. to prevent young people from viewing content harmful to them

In order to enable guardians to prevent young people from accessing content harmful to young people, satisfying the guardians' needs and based on the concept of Protection of Children Online (PCO) by Design, the government shall encourage business operators' effort to perform their obligation to provide a filtering service for young people, etc., their efforts to disseminate filtering services and software and other effective means of protecting young people, advance filtering services and software in accordance with guardians' needs, and also promote measures to prevent young people from viewing content harmful to them through means such as blocking child pornography.

(4) Promotion of voluntary efforts by citizens to resolve problems on the Internet

The government shall encourage each of private Internet users to make voluntary efforts to pay caution to young people's Internet usage when transmitting information or to report problematic content so as to resolve

problems on the Internet, including content harmful to young people.

(5) Establishment of an effective PDCA cycle that takes into account changes in the related technology and the manner of use

Based on the recognition that the Internet environment changes dramatically due to rapid technology innovation, and in light of the significant changes in technology and use that are characteristics of the Internet, the government shall establish an effective PDCA cycle to quickly identify emerging problems affecting young people and promptly respond to these problems.

3. Aims in Implementing Measures

The following five aims shall be observed while promoting measures based on the abovementioned basic policies to ensure that the initiatives taken to ensure safe and secure Internet use by young people will protect young people from harmful content while allowing them to enjoy the benefits of Internet use:

(i) Balance between improving information literacy and minimizing the chances to view harmful content

In order to develop a safe and secure environment for Internet use for young people, every effort shall be made to improve the ability of young people to properly use the Internet, focusing on their daily life cycles. To supplement these efforts, measures shall be taken to minimize the opportunities for young people to view content harmful to them.

(ii) Roles of guardians and other responsible parties

Guardians, who directly care for and educate young people, have the primary right and responsibility to ensure an environment that provides safe and secure Internet use for young people. However, as the Internet usage environment is subject to significant and rapid change due to technological innovations, it is difficult for guardians alone to fulfill this role. Therefore, other responsible parties should cooperate and fulfill their respective roles in supporting and helping guardians perform their obligations properly. For example, business operators should further promote measures for protecting young people, based on the concept of PCO by Design.

(iii) Approaches on the information recipients' side

Measures shall be taken to minimize opportunities for young people to view harmful content on the information recipients' side, in principle, from the perspective of ensuring freedom of expression on the Internet.

(iv) Private initiatives and support by the administrative organs

Independent and voluntary efforts by the private sector to develop an environment that provides safe and secure Internet use for young people shall first be respected, and the administrative organs shall provide support for such efforts.

(v) No administrative interference concerning the determination of what constitutes harmful content

The private sector should evaluate what contents are harmful to young people, and the governmental administrative organs shall not interfere with such judgment.

Part 2 Matters Concerning Measures for Promoting Education and Awareness-raising Activities on Appropriate Internet Use by Young People

In order to have young people acquire skills for the appropriate utilization of the Internet according to their developmental stage, the PDCA cycle in mind shall be kept in mind as follows. Education and awareness-raising activities on appropriate Internet use by young people shall be promoted at schools, in society and at home. Measures shall also be taken to assist research for the purpose of developing and disseminating effective education and awareness-raising methods with a focus on the daily life cycles of young people, and to promote and support the gathering and sharing of information on best practices.

Furthermore, the government shall be united in carrying out public announcements and awareness-raising activities, proactively supporting private bodies' awareness-raising activities, and prompting the development of national movements in society as a whole for the development of an environment that provides safe and secure Internet use for young people.

1. Promotion of education and awareness-raising activities at schools

(1) Promotion of information ethics education, etc.

Guidance for appropriate use of information and communication technology and information ethics education deemed necessary according to the school grade level and children's developmental stage shall be provided at all elementary schools, lower secondary schools, and upper secondary schools.

(2) Enhancement of teaching skills in information ethics education, etc.

The use of reference materials prepared by the State for guidance in providing students with information ethics education according to their development stages shall be promoted, and teachers' skills in information ethics education shall be enhanced through continuous training sessions for supervisors, etc., so as to have nearly all teachers (including students studying to become teachers) acquire skills to teach appropriate utilization of information and communication technology and information ethics.

(3) Promotion of awareness-raising activities at schools

With the view of ensuring young people will not become victims or inflict harm to others in relation to Internet use, materials for awareness-raising activities to support education at schools shall be prepared and provided. With the cooperation between the public and private sectors, awareness-raising courses concerning appropriate Internet use shall be provided for young people, teachers, and guardians. Awareness-raising activities shall further be promoted by making the most of the effective opportunities where guardians, etc. meet together at schools.

Based on the notice, which requests the prohibition of bringing mobile phones to elementary schools and lower secondary schools in principle, efforts shall be promoted, in accordance with the circumstances at respective schools and communities.

(4) Encouraging efforts to cope with “cyberbullying”

In accordance with the Act on Promotion of Bullying Prevention Measures (Act No. 71 of 2013), efforts shall be made to clarify the reality of “cyberbullying” via community sites or so-called off-school websites, etc., and through cooperation among related organizations, etc., effective measures shall be taken for prevention, early detection, or preemptive moves toward resolving this problem. In addition, more opportunities shall be provided for students themselves to consider bullying problems including cyberbullying.

2. Promotion of education and awareness-raising activities in society

(1) Support for education and awareness-raising activities by local communities, private bodies, business operators, and other parties concerned

With the view to ensure that students will neither become victims nor inflict harm to others in relation to Internet use, reference materials compiling actual cases where young people have been involved in Internet problems and crime, and countermeasures taken in response shall be provided. Awareness-raising courses concerning appropriate Internet use

shall be provided for young people through cooperation between the public and private sectors. Furthermore, efforts shall be made to establish a cooperative framework aimed at building sustainable regional platforms, so that education and awareness-raising activities will be carried out by local communities, private bodies, business operators, and other parties concerned (e.g. parties engaged in education other than that conducted at school). continuously in accordance with their respective circumstances and with the PDCA cycle in mind, and also support for these activities shall be provided by way of formulating a system to implement such activities, holding symposiums and forums, promoting the use of private bodies' Internet-use skill tests for young people, and preparing and distributing materials for awareness-raising activities.

(2) Promotion and support for the gathering and sharing of information of the best practices in respective communities

Useful information on concrete measures taken by related organizations and associations for the development of an environment for safe and secure Internet use for young people shall be provided promptly in the form of an easy-to-understand list by effectively utilizing websites and other portal sites. Support shall be provided to related organizations and associations in respective communities to promote their initiatives toward gathering and sharing information on the best creative practices.

(3) Support for fostering diversity of human resources in communities (e.g. cybercrime prevention volunteers)

In order to ensure that education and awareness-raising activities concerning appropriate Internet use by young people will be promoted effectively according to the circumstances of respective communities, the government shall provide more support for fostering a diversity of human resources in charge of these activities in communities, such as cybercrime prevention volunteers and NPOs.

(4) Encouraging the effective use of Internet literacy indicators

Due to the emergence of smartphones and other new devices, the knowledge needed to enable young people to use the Internet in a safe and secure manner has become diversified. Therefore, with the effective use of

Internet literacy indicators for young people, the government shall evaluate the Internet literacy and actual Internet use among young people and guardians and promote measures to improve their Internet literacy based on the evaluation results.

3. Promotion of education and awareness-raising activities at home

(1) Support for guardians' control (i.e. parental control) proportional to the development stage of young people

Guardians shall be informed of methods to understand how their children use the Internet and to control their children's Internet use based on the guardians' choices (parental control) in accordance with the developmental stage of their children, so that they will be able to use these methods appropriately. These methods include checking their children's browser history while giving due consideration to their privacy, and mobile phones enabling restrictions of related functions and effecting restrictions of smartphone applications.

(2) Support for efforts at home, such as making family rules, with the aim of enabling young people to establish an appropriate lifestyle

It is important for guardians to fulfill their responsibilities for appropriate Internet use by young people, by understanding the actual Internet use of their children and controlling their children's Internet use based on the guardians' choices depending on the youth's development stages. Therefore, with the aim of improving guardians' Internet literacy and enabling young people to establish an appropriate lifestyle, awareness-raising courses concerning appropriate Internet use by young people shall be provided for guardians with cooperation from the public and private sectors.

The government shall provide young people and their guardians with awareness-raising materials concerning family rules for Internet use at home so as to ensure safe and secure Internet use by young people, methods to avoid potential risk involving their use of community sites and their involvement in troubles and crimes on the Internet, including the risk of "Internet addiction" resulting from long hours of use, and consultation services to cope with issues concerning Internet use by

children. The government shall also provide teaching materials for guardians to cultivate media literacy on the Internet, thereby supporting various efforts at home.

4. Support for the research of developing and disseminating effective education and awareness-raising methods with a focus on the daily life cycles of young people

(1) Support for implementing effective information education

The government shall conduct research, aiming to resolve problems in implementing information education, and thereby support implementation of more effective information education.

(2) Review and promotion of effective awareness-raising activities for guardians, especially those who need intensive support

Consideration shall be given to the appropriate provision of information to guardians with regard to countermeasures against troubles on the Internet and consultation services concerning these troubles, so that they may properly control Internet use by young people. At the same time, with the view of promoting and supporting the voluntary efforts of guardians, especially those who need intensive support, review shall be promoted on awareness-raising and support measures that can attract more attention from guardians. Such review shall cover desirable consultation services concerning Internet problems involving young people, as well as effective awareness-raising activities at various occasions such as the purchase or replacement of the equipment that allows access to the Internet such as smartphones, mobile phones, PHSs, video game consoles, personal computers, tablet computers and portable music players, or the purchase of application software. In order to enhance the effects of these efforts, an ongoing survey shall be conducted on the Internet literacy of young people and their guardians and the status of their Internet use.

5. Development of national movements

(1) Promotion of comprehensive and intensive public relations and awareness-raising activities for coping with problems in society as a

whole

In order to prompt society as a whole to achieve an environment that provides safe and secure Internet use for young people, comprehensive and intensive public relations and awareness-raising activities shall be carried out continuously on occasions such as the “National Month for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile Damage” and the “Children and Young People’s Development Support Month ,” as well as the “Spring Intensive Campaign for Safe Internet Use by Students” which is held at the time young people enter schools or advance to new grades, when many young people are expected to purchase smartphones, mobile phones, PHSs, etc.

(2) Support for voluntary activities by Internet users and business operators

Support shall be provided for activities to further promote expansion of voluntary activities by Internet users and business operators using third party organizations activities for the development of a better environment for safe and secure Internet use by young people. These voluntary activities include the business operators make independent decisions to determine their own details of measures, such as by obtaining accreditation from a third party organization that their measures satisfy the standard requirements established by the organization, and representing this fact with the use of logos issued by the organization.

Part 3 Matters Concerning Measures for Improving the Performance of and Disseminating the Use of Service of and Software for Filtering Content Harmful to Young People

Going back to the basic principle of protecting and fostering children through the efforts of the whole society, and in order to reduce the chances of young people viewing content harmful to young people as much as possible, the government shall take measures to ensure business operators' performance of their obligations to provide filtering services and software, etc., further disseminate the use of means of protecting young people such as filtering services and software, and enable guardians to easily use effective functions for protecting young people by using methods such as filtering services and software from the users' standpoint, regardless of whether the device or access environments and from the users' perspective, in accordance with the developmental stage of young people.

In particular, the Internet environment surrounding young people is characterized by the constant introduction of new devices, services and transmission technologies, which then spread rapidly among young people. Considering this feature, the government shall promote and support the efforts of the private sector that when they design new devices, services or technologies, business operators should assume that these will be used by young people, and should design devices and services that incorporate effective means of protecting young people and develop proper internal and external systems (PCO by Design).

1. Securing business operators' thorough performance of obligations to provide filtering services and software, etc. and promoting explanations to guardians

(1) Securing thorough performance of obligations to provide filtering services and software, etc.

Business operators' obligation to provide filtering services and software, etc. shall be performed thoroughly under the Act on Development of Internet Environment for Young People, and the government shall also promote measures taken by related business operators to provide filtering services or other methods to prevent young people's use of so-called online

dating sites, based on the Act on Regulating Enticement of Children through Websites for Social Networking of Opposite Sexes (Act No. 83 of 2003). In particular, efforts shall be promoted to find out if young people use mobile phones and PHSs, for which business operators shall be obliged to provide filtering services for young people, in principle, under the Act on Development of Internet Environment for Young People.

(2) Promoting explanations to guardians

With regard to smartphones, mobile phones, PHSs, game machines, personal computers, tablet computers and portable music players, through which young people generally access the Internet, efforts shall be promoted to enable guardians to fully understand the details, importance and means of using filtering services and software. In order to ensure the effectiveness of these efforts, appropriate initiatives shall be carried out from the users' perspective so that guardians will be properly informed of the consultation services concerning Internet problems involving young people and be provided with the explanation and information necessary to cope with these problems.

(3) Dissemination of standards for determining the best methods of providing filtering services

Amid continuing changes of the Internet use environment for young people, in order to enable people to determine the best methods in which related business operators can jointly provide filtering services for smartphones, mobile phones, PHSs, video game consoles, personal computers, tablet computers and portable music players used to access the Internet, standards for determining the best methods of providing filtering services shall be widely disseminated, thereby facilitating the provision of proper filtering services by related business operators.

2. Promotion of means of protecting young people such as of filtering services and software, based on the concept of Protection of Children Online (PCO) by Design

(1) Promotion of diversification and improvement of filtering services and software

In order to minimize opportunities for young people to view content harmful to them, efforts shall be promoted so that a diversity of functions and services designed for protecting young people will be incorporated in devices used for Internet access by young people, including filtering services and software which guardians can select in accordance with their children's developmental stages. Efforts shall also be made to promote and support the provision of functions, services and information worthy of the users' trust, by encouraging the improvement of the relevant functions and services as well as the approaches of providing explanation and information on these protective means upon sale if necessary.

(2) Support for efforts to establish the appropriate coverage of the content subject to restriction of viewing by filtering services and software and to make such restriction appropriate

In order to help filtering service providers establish the appropriate coverage of content to be made subject to restriction from viewing, support shall be provided for the Internet Hotline Center Japan to continuously provide filtering service providers with URL information of websites reported by general users as containing harmful or illegal content. The government shall support efforts among private sectors involving private third party bodies to accredit websites that have governing structures taking due consideration of the need to protect young people, so that information that does not fall under the category of content harmful to young people is not made subject to restricted viewing through filtering services and software.

(3) Establishing appropriate measures in relation with new devices, services and transmission technologies based on the concept of "Protection of Children Online (PCO) by Design"

The government shall support the efforts of the private sectors to accelerate the initiatives for designing and providing devices or services that incorporate effective means of protecting young people and developing proper internal and external systems with keeping the concept of PCO by Design in mind when designing new devices, services and transmission technologies.

Furthermore, in order to ensure the effectiveness of these efforts, the government shall support independent and voluntary initiatives by business operators in providing guardians with an easy-to-understand explanation the necessity and methods of using a means of protecting young people such as filtering services and software.

In response to rapid changes in the Internet use environment, represented by the recent trends regarding the removal of SIM lock, and the further dissemination of new Internet access devices as well as Wi-Fi and other new transmission technologies, continuous review shall be made with regard to how to implement effective means of protecting young people such as filtering services and software, irrespective of the device or access environments and from the users' perspective. Such review shall take into account the voluntary efforts that should be made by private bodies and the involvement of third party organizations.

3. Awareness-raising activities for promoting dissemination of means of protecting young people such as filtering services and software

In order to further disseminate the use of effective means of protecting young people such as filtering services and software, irrespective of the device or access environments and from the users' perspective, the government shall cooperate with local public entities, organizations that promote filtering and other awareness-raising bodies, related business operators, PTAs, and other related bodies to continue and promote awareness-raising activities.

4. Surveys on awareness of protecting measures of young people such as filtering services and software

In order to contribute to the review and implementation of measures for further improving the performance and disseminating the use of effective means of protecting young people such as filtering services and software, irrespective of the device or access environments and from the users' perspective, surveys shall be carried out continuously on the Internet literacy of young people and their guardians and the status of their use of the Internet.

Part 4 Matters Concerning Support for Private Bodies, etc., Engaged in Activities for Appropriate Internet Use by Young People

The government shall provide financial and other support, including support for technological development, to private bodies or business operators engaged in activities for ensuring safe and secure Internet use by young people, respecting their voluntary and independent efforts as much as possible, without interfering with their judgment of harmful content and setting of standards for filtering.

1. Support for activities to allow young people to acquire skills for the appropriate utilization of the Internet

For further expansion and enhancement of education and awareness-raising activities by private bodies, efforts shall be made to establish a cooperative framework aimed at building sustainable regional platforms, so that these activities will be carried out continuously in accordance with their respective circumstances and with the PDCA cycle in mind. Support shall be provided for their efforts by formulating a system to implement such activities, holding symposiums and forums, promoting the use of private bodies' Internet-use skill tests for young people, and preparing and distributing materials for awareness-raising activities.

2. Support for website operators to develop a system for measures to prevent young people from viewing content harmful to them

(1) Support for developing systems such as those for formulating guidelines, etc.

Support shall be provided for private bodies to formulate guidelines for the establishment of model contractual conditions and countermeasures against illegal and harmful content, develop a system to implement such guidelines, and provide a consultation service, in order to promote such measures so as to prevent young people from viewing content harmful to them taken voluntarily by individual or corporate website operators, bulletin board service providers, or other service providers.

(2) Support for efficient and smooth implementation of activities

For efficient and smooth implementation of business operators' countermeasures against content harmful to young people, support shall be provided for research, etc., of detection technology for illegal and harmful content on the Internet by the private sector.

3. Support for consultation on young people's problems concerning the Internet

Support shall be provided for activities of private bodies that detect content on the Internet that is likely to be harmful to young people, or provide consultation services concerning troubles caused by Internet use by young people, etc.

4. Support for other activities for the development of an environment for Internet use

Support shall be provided for education, awareness-raising and human resource development activities to enhance the development of an environment for Internet use for young people by private bodies such as the Japan Internet Safety Promotion Association to promote voluntary efforts through the cooperation between industry and academia. Support shall also be provided to promote the participation by more diversified parties and to strengthen collaboration among the participants in such bodies.

Part 5 Important Matters Concerning Other Measures for Providing Safe and Secure Internet Use for Young People

In order to provide safe and secure Internet use for young people, the government shall promote measures to prevent young people from becoming victims of crimes committed via the Internet, and develop a system for requesting deletion of illegal and harmful content such as child pornography posted on the Internet or for providing consultations on damages, while encouraging efforts to cope with discrete problems such as spam mail.

1. Promotion of control to prevent young people from becoming victims of crimes committed via the Internet

(1) Promotion of measures to prevent young people from becoming victims of crimes committed via the Internet and strengthening the related system

In order to prevent young people from becoming victims of crimes committed via the Internet, the government shall enhance the law enforcement against crimes involving juvenile victims, including breach of prohibition against inducement on online dating sites, and strengthen the enforcement system necessary for that purpose, as well as seek. Strict enforcement on offenders of these crimes.

(2) Enhancing the law enforcement against related crimes taking place at community sites and encouragement of efforts of business operators to prevent young people from becoming victims

The government shall enhance the law enforcement against related crimes taking place at community sites and encourage business operators to take voluntary measures aimed at preventing young people from becoming victims. These measures include: public relations and awareness-raising activities; strengthening the monitoring system within the site by the site operator's checking messages exchanged among site members; introducing an effective zoning system with the use of the user age data in mobile phone operators' possession.

(3) Promotion of police guidance to children in cyberspace

In order to ensure sound development of children by protecting them from crimes that could harm their welfare taking place on the Internet, the government shall enhance the police guidance scheme whereby police conduct cyber patrol to detect inappropriate messages posted by children on the Internet such as seeking compensated dating and give warnings and guidance directly to these children.

(4) Promotion of measures to eliminate child pornography on the Internet

Based on the “Second Comprehensive Measures to Eliminate Child Pornography” (adopted by the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime on May 28, 2013), the government shall promote measures to eliminate child pornography on the Internet, such as preventing the creating and spread of victims of child pornography and providing protection and support for child victims.

(5) Promotion of development of good cooperative relationships for investigation

The development of cooperative relationships with private bodies, etc. should further be promoted with a view to increasing arrests of suspects and preventing the expansion of damages.

2. Promotion of requests for deletion, etc. of illegal and harmful content

(1) Promotion of requests for deletion, etc. through the Internet Hotline Center, etc.

In order to promote countermeasures against the illegal and harmful content that is flooding the Internet, request to delete the illegal and harmful content on the Internet shall be encouraged through the Internet Hotline Center, etc. At the same time, the government shall promote, for example, outsourcing of the cyber patrol business to the private sector, so that more reports can be made to the Internet Hotline Center, etc., concerning illegal and harmful content including that on online dating sites and websites available only to members.

(2) Support for business operators and private bodies to take effective

measures to prevent viewing, etc.

In order to minimize opportunities for young people to view illegal and harmful content such as child pornography via the Internet, support shall be provided for business operators and private bodies to take effective measures to prevent viewing for protecting rights of young people.

3. Promotion of measures against defamation and invasion of privacy against young people

(1) Counseling service for young people whose human rights are infringed on the Internet

In order to make young people feel free to consult with counselors when they get damaged by defamation, etc. on the Internet, the government shall continue to promote several measures which include providing counseling services by telephone hotline or on the Internet, and distributing sets of letter paper and envelopes for counseling (“Children’s Rights SOS Mini-Letters”) to students of elementary schools and junior high schools nationwide.

Furthermore, the government shall promote awareness raising activities to young people and their guardians on appropriate Internet use from the viewpoint of the human rights protection.

(2) Measures against defamation and invasion of privacy on the Internet

With regard to consultations on defamation and invasion of privacy on the Internet, the government shall promote measures to inform victims of the methods to request the providers, etc. to disclose the information of the sender or to delete the contents constituting defamation and invasion of privacy, and, if necessary, to request the providers, etc. to delete the contents.

4. Promotion of countermeasures against spam mail

(1) Steady enforcement of the law and other comprehensive measures

Regarding spam mails sent without recipient’s consent about so-called online dating service websites or sexually explicit sites, regulations shall be steadily enforced based on the Act on Regulation of Transmission of

Specified Electronic Mail (Act No. 26 of 2002) and the Act on Specified Commercial Transactions (Act No. 57 of 1976), so that such mail should not lead young people to access illegal and harmful content.

Furthermore, the government shall take comprehensive measures such as the promotion of business operators' technological countermeasures.

(2) Promotion of international cooperation

The government shall exchange information on countermeasures against spam mail with other countries, providing foreign authorities with information contributing to the enforcement of the legislation concerning spam mail if necessary, and thereby collaborate internationally in execution of laws.

(3) Dissemination activities for countermeasures against chain mail

Regarding chain mails (meaning a kind of spam mail that continues by urging receivers to pass along a chain letter by mail) that many young people receive and send, countermeasures, etc. shall be disseminated via the Anti-Spam Consultation Center.

5. Surveys on Japan and other countries

(1) Surveys on social impact of harmful content

Support shall be provided for industry-academia surveys on the social impact of harmful content on young people, etc.

(2) Survey on efforts in foreign countries

Survey shall be carried out on the current conditions and efforts in foreign countries which have promoted measures relating to content harmful to young people.

Part 6 Promotion System, etc.

1. Promotion system in the national government

In order to promote measures based on the Basic Plan in a comprehensive and effective manner, the Headquarters for the Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People shall take the initiative, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, to formulate close collaboration and cooperation among related administrative agencies.

2. Collaboration with local public entities, guardians, business operators and private bodies, etc.

When implementing measures based on the Basic Plan, voluntary and independent efforts by guardians, business operators, and private bodies play a significant role. In light of this, the government shall endeavor to develop a system of mutual collaboration and cooperation among guardians, business operators, and private bodies, together with local public entities.

3. Promotion of international collaboration

In light of the characteristics of the Internet that enable the transmission and viewing of information across borders, the government shall participate in various meetings with international organizations and other related countries to actively transmit information on Japan's efforts and exchange information on other countries' activities. In particular, with regard to the OECD Recommendation of the Council on the Protection of Children Online adopted in February 2012 and efforts made in response, ongoing activities shall be conducted through collaboration among the related ministries and agencies.

Furthermore, the government shall promote efforts aimed at realizing international collaboration in the private sector's efforts for developing a better environment for Internet use. Specifically, the government shall support business operators or other related parties located in and outside of the country in carrying out voluntary and independent initiatives, by making guidelines established by international organizations available to

them and providing them with information on effective measures of protecting young people promoted under the initiative of the private sector based on these guidelines.

4. Review of the Basic Plan, etc.

With regard to this Basic Plan, the government shall promptly respond to new problems faced by young people concerning the use of the rapidly changing and evolving Internet, and shall follow up once a year and verify, as quantitatively as possible and with the PDCA cycle in mind, the status of the implementation of concrete measures through the Fact-finding Survey on the Internet Use Environment of Young People, etc. Based on the results of the follow-up, changes in social and economic circumstances, changes in the environment for Internet use by young people, and progress of measures based on the Act on Development of Internet Environment for Young People and the Basic Plan, necessary measures, including the revision of laws and regulations, shall be discussed and the Basic Plan shall be reviewed in around three years.