

**Memorandum of Cooperation between
The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan
and
The International Labour Organization**

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (hereinafter referred to as “the Ministry”) and the International Labour Organization (hereinafter referred to as “the ILO”), represented by the International Labour Office (hereinafter referred to as “the Office”), desire to strengthen their bonds of cooperation and have hereby reached the following common recognition to strengthen their mutual cooperation.

I. Objective

“The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (hereinafter referred to as “the SDGs”) were adopted at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in 2015. The agenda articulated promotion of full and productive employment and decent work for all, which reaffirmed the importance of actions conducted by the ILO. The Government of Japan adopted the “SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles” under the SDGs Promotion Headquarters to comprehensively and effectively implement measures related to the SDGs. In anticipation of the ILO’s centenary, the ILO is focusing on future of work and carrying on an in-depth discussion on its role in the coming century. This effort is consistent with national discussion on the “The Japan Vision: Future of Work 2035” in Japan. The objective of this Memorandum of Cooperation (Hereinafter referred to as “Memorandum”) is, in accordance with the momentum above, to make global cooperative relationships of the Ministry and the ILO more firm and stable.

II. Areas of Cooperation

The areas of cooperation include the following:

1. Annual Strategic Consultation;
2. Recruitment and promotion of Japanese nationals by the Office,
3. Enhancement of discussion concerning to the future of works in terms of demographic change and longevity, and implementation of the technical cooperation towards the developing countries; and

4. Other areas of cooperation as jointly decided by the Ministry and the ILO.

III. Annual Strategic Consultations

The Ministry and the ILO will hold an Annual Strategic Consultation by senior managerial officials to discuss: i) global and Japanese trends in labour; ii) activities of the ILO; and iii) the issues listed in 2 to 4 in Section II above. The Annual Strategic Consultation will be held once a year in Tokyo, Geneva or other location which may be mutually decided.

IV. Recruitment and Promotion of Japanese Nationals

The Ministry and the ILO jointly recognize that action is necessary to redress the under-represented situation of Japanese nationals in the Office, especially at managerial level, while diversity among its staff is needed. Recognition is also mutually shared that the ILO, as the only United Nations agency on labour, needs staff with extensive knowledge and experience on employment, labour and world of work issues. The ILO will ensure that the Ministry is adequately informed of vacancies among its staff in the Office in the professional categories, and the Ministry will provide information on Japanese nationals with knowledge and experience which the ILO expects. The Ministry and the ILO discuss on further actions to accelerate recruitment and promotion of Japanese nationals in the Office at the Annual Strategic Consultation.

V. Dispute Resolution

Any question between the Ministry and the ILO arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum will be settled through amicable consultations.

VI. Nature, Duration and Modification

1. This Memorandum is not an international treaty, and does not create any privileges or obligations under international law.
2. The cooperation under this Memorandum will commence on date of signing and continue for a period of five (5) years.
3. The cooperation under this Memorandum will be renewed automatically for similar periods, unless one side notifies the other side of its intention to terminate it three (3) months prior to the termination.

4. This Memorandum may be modified by mutual written consent of both sides.
5. Notwithstanding the termination of the cooperation under this Memorandum, projects or programmes launched during the cooperation period will be continued until the end of scheduled period.

This Memorandum is signed in duplicate as a non-legally binding document in Tokyo on 11 of May 2017 in English language.

For the
Ministry of Health, Labour and
Welfare of Japan

For the
International Labour Organization
