

Science Council of Japan (SCJ)

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## Proposal for Designing of Official Statistics of Japan

### SUMMARY

We regard official statistics as a vital tool for policy making and evaluation by the government as well as for examining economic condition and conducting scientific researches.

Japanese official statistics is currently under a critical situation because the number of qualified statisticians has been reduced beyond a reasonable limit, hence statistical agencies are losing ability to provide high-quality statistical data for the public to conduct various researches and policy evaluation.

The committee presents a proposal, which covers three major points to be discussed urgently: (1) to strengthen statistical agencies of the government, (2) to promote dissemination of micro data sets, and (3) to consider carefully before extending dependence on the private sector to conduct statistical surveys.