



**Progress of the Action Plan
for the Science Council of Japan,
during the 26th Term (Oct. 2023 - Sep. 2026)**

October, 2024

President, Science Council of Japan

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About the Science Council of Japan

- **Representative organization of the Japanese scientific community** ranging over all fields of the sciences subsuming humanities, the social sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, and engineering.
- Established in **1949**
- **Mission:** Contributing to the peaceful reconstruction of Japan and the welfare of human society, as well as to academic progress in partnership with academic circles all over the world
- **“Special Organization” within the Cabinet Office** that carries out its duties, independently, under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister



General Assembly



Structure of the Science Council of Japan

- President
- Vice-President in charge of Organizational Management
- Vice-President in charge of Contact with Government and Society
- Vice-President in charge of International Activities

210 Council Members

Section I

Humanities and Social
Sciences

Section II

Life Sciences

Section III

Physical Sciences and
Engineering

Approximately 2,000 Associate Members

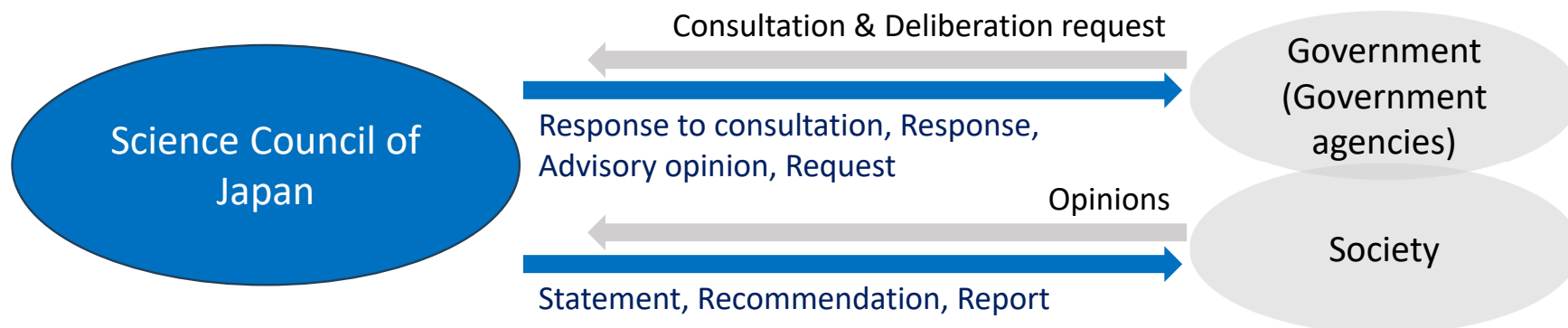
- Council members: 3-year **fixed** term, up to 2 consecutive terms possible. Limited to persons under 70 years old.
- The restrictions for associated members are less stringent.

Key Activities

Enhance Scientific Activities in Academia and Society

- Regional Conferences and Regional Science Council
- Functional support for academic societies
- Partnership with academic societies
- Organizing the SCJ forums, symposiums, science cafes, etc.

Convey Opinions by Japanese Scientists to Government and Society

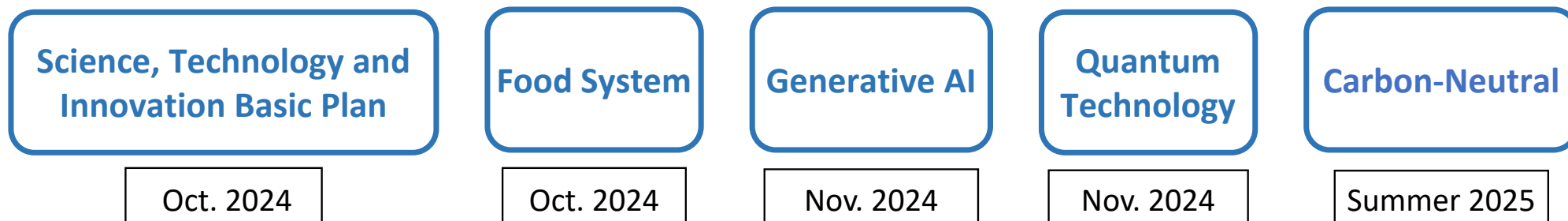


Major priorities for the SCJ during the 26th term: to fulfill a better role

1. Timely and speedy expression of opinion (e.g., request, statement, recommendation, advisory opinion, report and response) and enhancement of advisory functions of the SCJ
2. Close communication with various academic institutions for the development of the academy and strengthening the SCJ's activities as a hub for those collaborations
3. Increase the SCJ's presence as the national academy of Japan in the international arena
4. Promotion of communication with various stakeholders, such as industry, NGOs/NPOs as well as the general public
5. Promotion of regional revitalization with academic activities at its core
6. Functional enhancement of the SCJ's information dissemination
7. Strengthening of the planning and operational function of the SCJ to achieve the above pillars, including expansion of the capacity of the SCJ secretariat

1. Timely and speedy expression of opinion and enhancement of advisory functions of the SCJ

- ✓ Strengthening of advisory functions with more emphasis on problem-solving
⇒ **Tasks to be addressed for speedy expression of opinion**



- ✓ Reform of the peer review process to speed up and visualize transparency
- ✓ Ensuring the effective follow-up and dissemination of the recommendations issued; making good use of the system

Input to the next mid-term basic plan to be formulated by the government



Address the diverse challenges that face academic development, such as the transformation of society through COVID-19, generative AI, etc., while aiming to build a sustainable and resilient society.



Health problem incident probably caused by red yeast rice, contained in a pharmaceutical company-produced dietary supplement



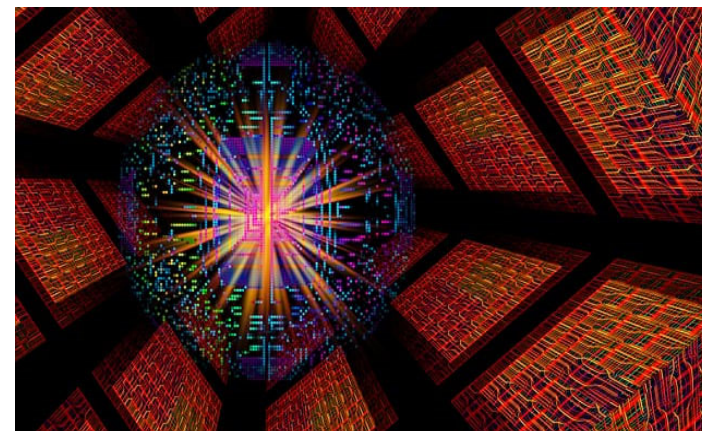
The relevant subcommittees in the fields of food science, agriculture, pharmacology, and health lifestyle sciences, work together to deepen discussions regarding “health foods” including functional labeled foods , organize symposiums, and recommend solutions to these issues.

Realization of a society that accepts and utilizes generative AI



Recommend measures that harmonize two aspects: promoting the effective use of the high potential of generative AI and alerting people to the risks of its use, such as privacy and copyright infringement, as well as its unauthorized use.

Rapid technological progress in the field of Quantum Technology



Review the outcomes of conventional policies, and recommend measures that contribute to the future of quantum technology with an R&D emphasis, its social implementation as well as education and human resources.

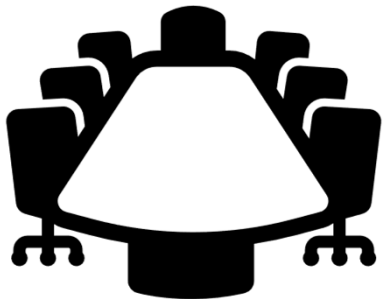
**The urgent issue of achieving
“carbon neutrality by 2050”**



Identify issues such as the relation between the “circular economy,” and “nature positive,” and clarify necessary measures to halt and reverse biodiversity loss.

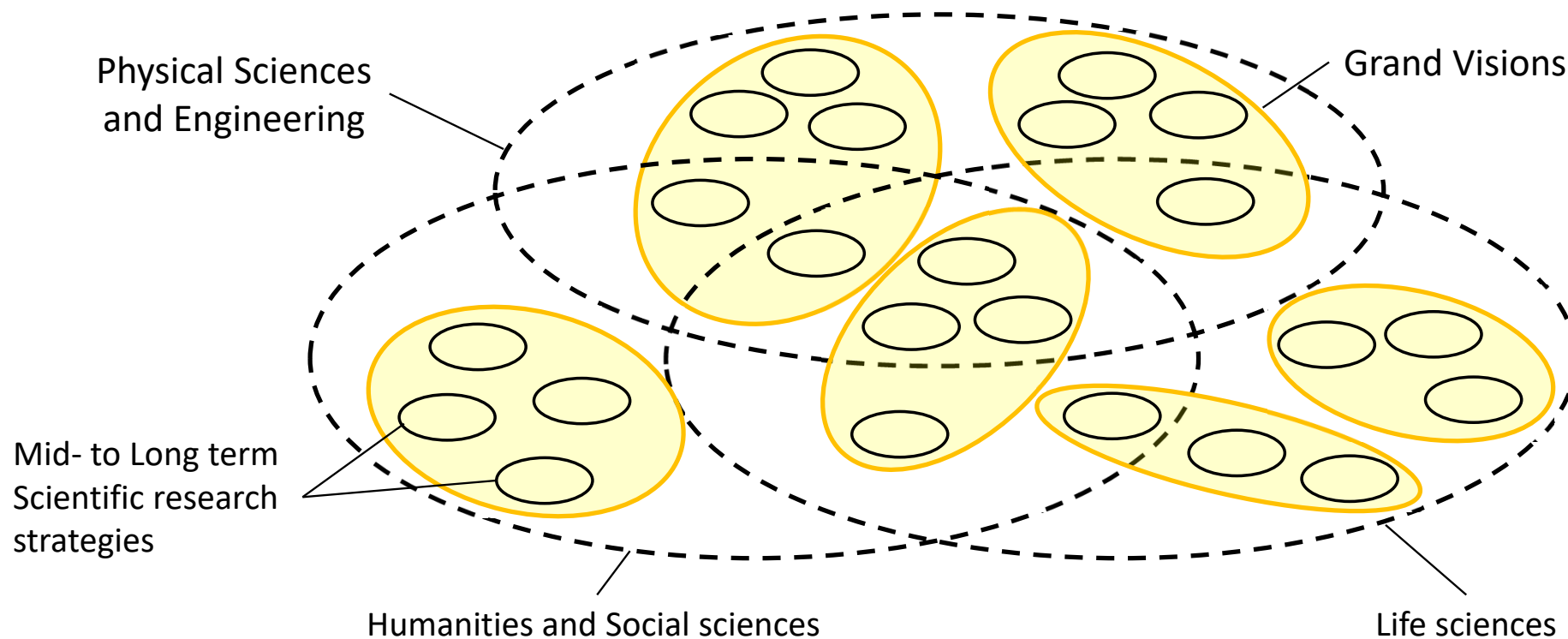
4. Promotion of communication with various stakeholders, such as industry, NGOs/NPOs as well as the general public

Communication with industry



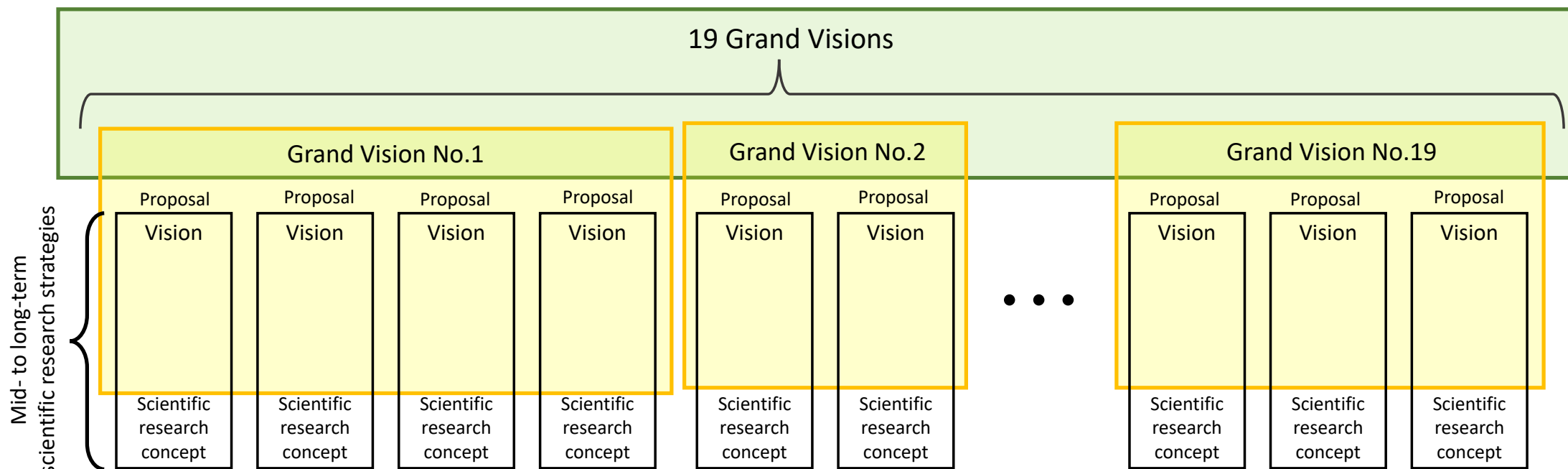
- An exchange of views between the Council on Competitiveness-Nippon (COCN) and the President, Vice-Presidents and other members of the SCJ
 - e.g., Discussion on what the business community expects of the SCJ

- Responds to global issues from a mid- to long-term perspective, envisioning future societies
- Revitalizes the entire academic community by exchanging information and opinion among research communities, and promotes the formation of new intellectual bases



The 19 Grand Visions

- Encompass academic disciplines that enrich our minds
- Analyze and conceptualize societal challenges
- Provide humanity with dreams and new insights through the pursuit of truth
- Contribute to humanity's health, safety, and prosperity





List of Grand Visions

- i. Proposal of Solutions to Contemporary Social Issues Through Data Analysis and the Enrichment of Language and Communication Studies
- ii. Science of Humanity and Society from Long Time Scales, Large Spatial Axes, and Diverse Perspectives
- iii. Reconstruction and International Collaboration of Non-Western History Studies, Including Japanese History
- iv. Academic Genesis for Sustaining the Earth's Biosphere and Food Supply
- v. Creation of Authentic Well-being Through Comprehensive Understanding of Life Phenomena
- vi. New Developments in Life Sciences Driven by Big Data
- vii. Genesis of Academia to Understand, Create, and Utilize Human Intelligence
- viii. Enhancement of Human Abilities and Coexistence with AI in the Super Smart Society
- ix. Value Creation through Construction and Utilization of Cyberspace
- x. Reconstruction of the Academic Community through Data Infrastructure and Utilization
- xi. Future Society Pioneered by Mathematics, Mathematical Sciences, and Quantum Information Science
- xii. Understanding of Earth Systems and Prediction of Earth Changes Through Innovative Observation Technologies
- xiii. Construction of Resilient and Sustainable Societies in Response to Global Environmental Crises
- xiv. Resolution of Energy and Environmental Challenges through Coexistence
- xv. Exploration of Innovative Materials Contributing to a Sustainable Society
- xvi. Exploration of the Extreme World Using Quantum Beams and Contributions to Human Society
- xvii. Advancement of Solar System Exploration and Expansion of Human Frontiers
- xviii. Unveiling the Birth and Coevolution of Celestial Bodies and Life in the Universe
- xix. Exploration of the Fundamental Laws of Nature and the Origin of the Universe and Matter