

# FY2020 Business Report

## Specified NPO Human Rights Now

### 1 Business results

In 2020, we continued to investigate and advocate for the human rights situation in the Asian region, including Burma (Myanmar), Thailand, Cambodia, and China (human rights activists, violations of freedom of expression, business and human rights, human rights of women and children, etc.) We conducted research and advocacy activities in Myanmar and human rights education. Educational support in Myanmar has been affected by the new coronavirus and the military coup, and although implementation will not be easy, preparations are underway. We continued our advocacy at the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council in New York and the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, and we continued to engage in global campaigns on issues such as women's rights, conflict, weapons and human rights, and the ICC.

In Japan, we conducted signature campaigns and outreach through the media to improve the revision of the criminal law's sexual offense provisions, which has led to raising public awareness, the establishment of an expert panel for the Ministry of Justice's Criminal Law Review Committee. Advocacy and efforts for solutions to the problem of people being forced to appear in AVs also continued. We also did follow-up of fact-finding on rights issues including Hong Kong and the Uighurs in China, human rights issues caused by the military coup in Myanmar, and investigation of the working environment at Olympic construction sites, and on business and human rights issues including engagement with companies by industry and lobbying for ESG investment for human rights. In addition, we worked on domestic human rights issues such as freedom of speech and expression and the rights of foreigners, and we continued to provide legal consultation to areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. We also conducted human rights education and awareness activities to foster the next generation in Japan.

### 2 Matters related to business implementation

(1) Business related to specified non-profit activities (Total project cost 【19,275】x1,000 yen)

Business name in Articles of Incorporation	Business content	Date	Place	No. of Staff	Beneficiary Range	No. of Beneficiaries	Costs (x1000 yen)
	<p>&lt;Human Rights Violation Fact Investigation and Publication Project&gt;</p> <p>We conducted fact-finding, information gathering, and publication of reports on the human rights situation in Asia, Thailand, China, Hong Kong, etc., and we made recommendations and lobbied to government agencies, the United Nations, etc.</p> <p>Regarding China, where the human rights situation has worsened in recent years, we have submitted a report to the United Nations regarding the crackdown on Hong Kong's democracy movement, and have started weekly meetings and film events, as well as an online event to discuss the large-scale human rights violations against the Uyghur people.</p> <p>In addition, in response to the military coup in Burma in February 2021, we released a statement together with other organizations condemning serious human rights violations against non-violent peaceful civilians and calling for the restoration of democratic politics. Together with the organizations, we submitted an open letter of inquiry to the government and held an in-house meeting based on the responses.</p> <p>Regarding Cambodia, where human rights</p>						

<p>International support project</p>	<p>violations continue against civil society, we urged the governments of 13 countries, including Japan, to join with other international human rights organizations in the EU's efforts to realize human rights in Cambodia.</p> <p>We continued local information gathering, networking, and research related to business and human rights.</p> <p>A statement was released in response to the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on October 24, 2020. Other efforts included human rights issues during armed conflicts in Gaza and Burma, strengthening protection for civilians, and making efforts to prevent militaries from attacking them in densely populated areas.</p>	<p>All year</p>	<p>Japan, Burma, China, etc. New York, Geneva</p>	<p>50</p>	<p>Affected citizens in general in Burma, China, Cambodia, Thailand, etc.</p>	<p>Countless</p>	<p>1,907</p>
<p>International support project</p>	<p><b>&lt;Women's Human Rights Project&gt;</b></p> <p>Regarding the issue of revising the sexual offense provisions of the Penal Code, which we have been working on for some time, a review will be carried out in 2020, three years after the revised Penal Code went into effect. We submitted a revised bill to the government, held a press conference, and continued to make policy recommendations to eradicate sexual harassment in Japan, including having photo actions on SNS and multiple online events. In addition, we conducted crowdfunding to strengthen our research, campaigns, and advocacy, and we received approximately 3.5 million yen in donations. Furthermore, regarding the issue of damage caused by coerced AV</p>	<p>All year</p>	<p>Japan, New York</p>	<p>35</p>	<p>Women generally in Japan, Asia, Middle East, etc.</p>	<p>Countless</p>	<p>3,415</p>

	<p>appearances in Japan, we have submitted policy proposals and done lobbying and awareness-raising activities to eradicate the problem, including submitting a request for countermeasures.</p> <p>In addition, we released a statement regarding damage caused by domestic violence, which has come to light during the coronavirus pandemic, issued a statement of protest against the sexist comments made by former Olympic Organizing Committee President Yoshiro Mori, and launched an investigation into issues of sex discrimination and equal opportunities for men and women in the field of sports.</p>						
Inter-national support project	<p>&lt;Children's Human Rights Project&gt;</p> <p>We collaborated with a US Law School's International Human Rights Clinic on policy proposals and research activities calling for the prohibition of sex discrimination in school education similar to Article 9 of the United States, and we created and published a report on it. We also continued to monitor and advocate for child rights violations in countries such as Myanmar and Iraq.</p>	All Year	Japan, etc.	30	Children in Japan, Myanmar, Iraq, etc.	Countless	2,025
Inter-national support project	<p>&lt;Overseas Human Rights Education Project&gt;</p> <p>In Burma, we conducted human rights education for lawyers, students, and others in collaboration with bar associations and other organizations. This year, due to the impact of coronavirus, it was difficult for instructors to travel, so we prepared to deliver lectures by sending lecture DVDs to local cooperating lawyers and recorded lectures, but in February 2021, the military had a coup d'état, and as of the end of June 2021, there is no prospect of its implementation.</p>	All Year	Japan, Burma, Thailand, Cambodia, China, etc.	25	Citizens, lawyers, and students in Burma, Thailand, Cambodia, China, etc.	About 100 people directly. The ripple effects are countless.	3,041

<p>Surveys, research proposals, and dissemination projects for the promotion and protection of human rights</p>	<p>&lt;Human Rights Policy Proposal Project&gt;</p> <p>We provided policy recommendations and advocacy to improve the human rights situation in Japan in accordance with international standards and various United Nations recommendations, and we continued to make policy recommendations to mainstream human rights bodies for foreign aid policies. In addition to continuing to provide legal consultation in the disaster-stricken areas, we also held a talk event to mark the 10th anniversary of the [2011] earthquake. In particular, this year, in relation to coronavirus, we have prepared and published a statement calling for the human rights of overstaying foreigners staying in Japan to be guaranteed, and we are working with other organizations to take measures in accordance with international human rights standards in responding to coronavirus. We have prepared and published a statement asking for this. In addition, the government prepared and published a statement clarifying problems from the perspective of international human rights standards regarding the “recommendations” made by an expert committee toward amending the Immigration Control Act. Regarding human rights issues related to business, we will continue to encourage the Japanese government, companies, investors, etc. to respect and protect human rights in accordance with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, strengthen dialogue, and promote human rights due diligence. We called for legal amendments and legislation to strengthen the effectiveness of the law. We have prepared and published an opinion paper regarding guaranteeing the human rights of foreign workers affected by coronavirus. In addition, we are working on the issue of forced labor related to the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region that occurs in the supply chain of Japanese companies, sending questionnaires to companies, creating a report, and holding a press conference. We called on companies to take appropriate measures in accordance</p>	<p>All year</p>	<p>Japan</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>Citizens in Japan, Asian countries, etc.</p>	<p>Countless</p>	<p>3,509</p>
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	<p>with international standards. Furthermore, we addressed the issue of Japanese companies partnering with local companies connected to the Myanmar military, prepared a statement, and held dialogues with the companies concerned. We also investigated other military-related projects, created a report, filed a complaint with the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights, and held an online event. After the military coup, we stepped up our efforts to reach out to businesses, issuing more joint statements and holding online events. We also worked on the issue of human rights violations against Indonesian workers on a Chinese fishing boat, investigated and created a report, and conducted a survey of related Japanese companies, calling for improvements in the system for regulating illegal fishing.</p>						
<p>Surveys, research proposals, and dissemination projects for the promotion and protection of human rights</p>	<p>&lt;United Nations/International Human Rights Standards Research/Advocacy Project&gt;  We participated in meetings of the United Nations Human Rights Council and treaty bodies in Geneva, participated in discussions on human rights issues in Asia and other regions, and provided information, made policy recommendations, and conducted advocacy activities. In New York, in collaboration with other organizations, we promoted advocacy activities at the United Nations General Assembly, Security Council, etc. on global issues such as humanitarian disarmament issues and responses to humanitarian crisis situations.</p>	<p>All year</p>	<p>Tokyo, New York, Geneva, etc.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>Japan citizens generally</p>	<p>Countless</p>	<p>3,214</p>

<p>Surveys, research proposals, and dissemination projects for the promotion and protection of human rights</p>	<p>&lt;Domestic information provision project&gt;</p> <p>We provided information on the situation of human rights violations in Asia, Japan, and the world and we gave policy recommendations through our website, media, newsletter, etc. We also carried out educational activities through holding symposiums, talk events, debriefing sessions, and publishing. Through holding online events and other events, we worked to spread awareness about human rights at various levels and spread international human rights standards. In addition, we conducted human rights education projects and youth festivals for junior high and high school students, we held a World Children's Day video speech contest, an online summer school, and human rights English conversation classes, We strengthened human rights awareness activities for the next generation through the dissemination of human rights education materials for junior high and high school students.</p>	<p>All year</p>	<p>Tokyo Geneva, etc.</p>	<p>600</p>	<p>Japan citizens generally</p>	<p>Countless</p>	<p>2,161</p>
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This fiscal year, due to the coronavirus pandemic, there were almost no offline events, and other business such as book and goods sales were not done.