

## Overview of the CSTP

The CSTP was set up in the Cabinet Office as one of four policy councils on key policy fields at the reorganization of government ministries and agencies that took place in January 2001. Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, the Council serves as the headquarters for the promotion of S&T policy; it overlooks all of the nation's S&T, formulates comprehensive and basic policies, and conducts their overall coordination.



### Four policy councils on key policy fields in the Cabinet Office:

- ▶ Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy ▶ **CSTP** ▶
- ▶ Central Disaster Management Council ▶ Council for Gender Equality

## State of Activities of the CSTP

The CSTP currently meets once a month as a rule. It is presided over by the Prime Minister, who chairs the meetings, with relevant ministers and executive members attend. The Council carries out 1) investigations and deliberations on basic policies relating to S&T, 2) investigations and deliberations concerning the policy for allocation of budget, human and other resources relating to S&T, and 3) evaluations of nationally important R&D.

### Special Features of the CSTP

#### Strategic promotion and timeliness

The council drafts comprehensive strategy of S&T to respond to national and social issues in a timely and appropriate manner.

#### Comprehensiveness

In S&T policy making, the council takes social sciences and humanities into consideration to improve the relationship between science and society in areas such as ethics.

#### Discretion

The council may express opinions to the Prime Minister or other Ministers on important issues of S&T at its discretion.

## Role of the Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy

The four policy councils on key policy fields within the Cabinet Office each have their own specially appointed minister-in-charge, who acts as the group's organizer. For the CSTP, this role is filled by the Minister of State for

Science and Technology Policy. The Minister is responsible for planning and overall coordination of S&T policies to ensure that they are implemented throughout the nation in an integrated manner.

### Relationship with Other Relevant Ministries and Agencies

The relevant ministries and agencies try to promote individual R&D related to S&T in the fields under their jurisdiction, in accordance with the basic policy and resource allocation guidelines indicated by the CSTP and under the coordination of the Minister of State for S&T Policy.

- ▶ **Comprehensive guidelines**  
(Japan's S&T Basic Policy Report, among others)
- ▶ **Individual, specific guidelines relating to each ministry and agency**  
(The Guideline for the Establishment and Utilization of Human Embryonic Stem (ES) Cells, among others)

### <The S&T Policy Decision Process>

