

Section 3 Situation of Efforts for Enforcement of the Act for Eliminating Discrimination

(1) Efforts regarding Handling Guidelines and Handling Directions

To ensure smooth enforcement of the Act for Eliminating Discrimination, in April 2016, the chiefs of the administrative agencies of the national government, the independent administrative agencies, etc. shall make the Handling Guidelines that contribute to the personnel's efforts, and the competent minister shall make the Handling Directions that contribute to the employers' efforts, both according to the Basic Policy. After creation, the Handling Guidelines and Handling Directions shall be made widely known to the public in addition to the Act for Eliminating Discrimination and the Basic Policy.

(2) Efforts regarding the Regional Council to Support the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities

The "Regional Council to Support the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities" stipulated as an arbitrary organization in the Act for Eliminating Discrimination and the Basic Policy (hereinafter referred to as the "Councils") is to be established according to the circumstances of a region. Since FY2013, therefore, the "Review Meeting for Ideal Way of the Regional Council to Support the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities" (hereinafter referred to as the "Review Meeting") of the Cabinet Office has been making the efforts for promoting the establishment of the Council ("Project for Organizational Development of the Regional Council to Support the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities"; hereinafter referred to as the "Organizational Development Project").

Specifically, the Review Meeting developed in FY2013 the "Tentative Directions for Establishment and Operation of Council during Implementation of Project for Organizational Development of the Regional Council to Support the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities" and started in FY2014 to collaborate with the local public entities that have already enacted or are in the process of enacting an ordinance to eliminate discrimination against persons with disabilities. The Review Meeting is verifying the effects and influences of these efforts and is working towards creating an establishment and operation manual (guidelines).

In FY2014, model meetings were held in the regions in collaboration with four local public entities (Iwate prefecture, Chiba Prefecture, Saitama City, and Urayasu city), and the "Local Review Meeting for Ideal Way of the Regional Council to Support the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities" was organized based on the tentative guideline developed in the previous fiscal year in order to discuss the efforts to promote elimination of discrimination against persons with disabilities.

Furthermore, an "interim report meeting" for the Organizational Development Project was held at the local public entities that held the model meetings to share the discussion content with the relevant organizations responsible for promotion of elimination of discrimination against persons with disabilities in the said local public entities, and a "final report meeting" was held in March to report the results of the model meetings to all the local public entities and relevant organizations in Japan. This effort is expected to contribute to prompt establishment and smooth operation of a Council in the sectors of local public entities.

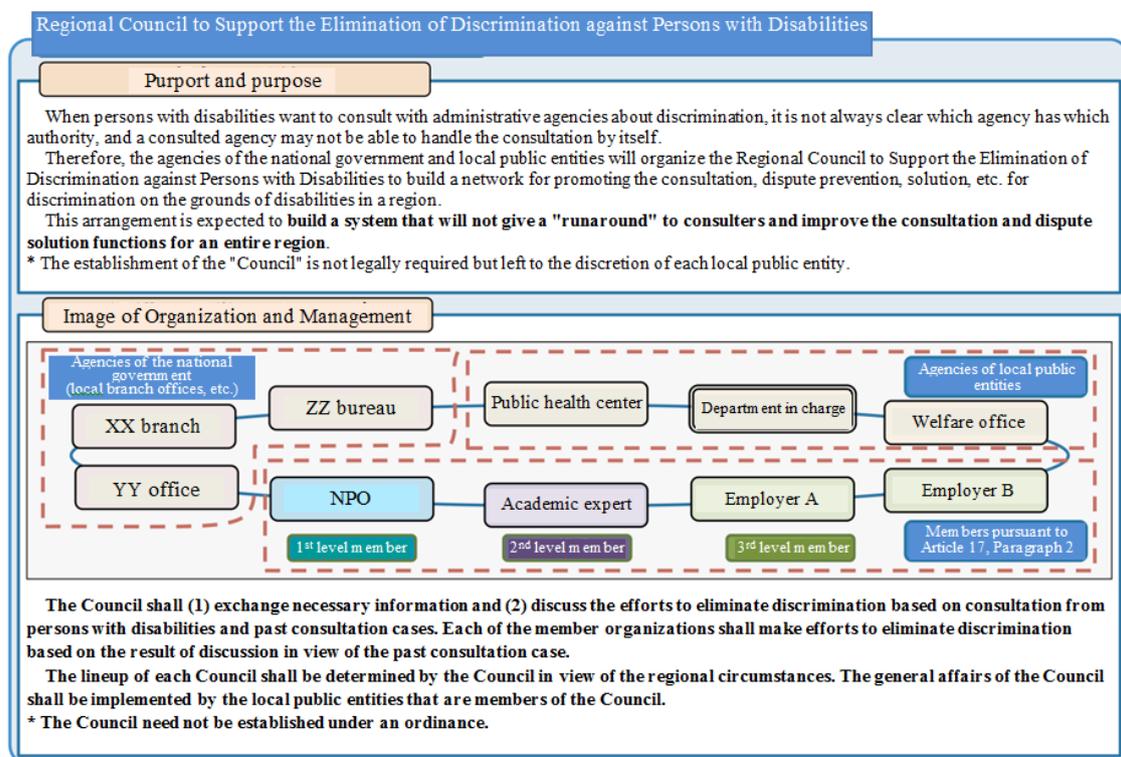
In FY2015, too, this effort is planned to continue with more participation of local public

entities, and an establishment and operation manual (guidelines) is scheduled for completion sometime in the first half of the year.

(3) Awareness Raising Activities for Act for Eliminating Discrimination

Article 15 of the Act stipulates that the national government and local public entities shall conduct necessary awareness raising activities because it is important to encourage the interest of all levels of the Japanese people to gain their understanding and collaboration to promote efficiently the elimination of discrimination against persons with disabilities.

■ Figure 3



The Cabinet Office has been carrying out awareness raising activities since FY2013, before the law was enforced. Specifically, it produces leaflets and holds Regional Forums for Cohesive society to make the gist and content of the Act widely known to the public.

a. Distribution of Publicity Leaflet

A publicity leaflet was created and distributed to ensure that the contents of the Act for Eliminating Discrimination are widely known to all levels of the Japanese people. Furthermore, a “simple version” that explains things using simpler words in place of difficult ones as well as illustrations and diagrams was created and distributed to facilitate understanding of the outline of the Act by people with intellectual disabilities, etc.

* See the website of the Cabinet Office to download leaflets, etc.

<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/suishin/sabekai.html>

b. Holding of Regional Forum for Elimination of Discrimination on the Grounds of Disability

In preparation for the enforcement of the Act for Eliminating Discrimination, “Regional Forums,” etc. were held in collaboration with local public entities to widely hear the opinions of persons with disabilities and parties concerned in each region to contribute to smooth enforcement of the said Act and to promote efforts and gain momentum toward elimination of discrimination against persons with disabilities in each region.

■ Figure 4 Records of Holding of “Regional Forum for Elimination of Discrimination on the Grounds of Disability” and Others

○ FY2013

Period	From December 2013 to March 2014
Venue	10 places in Japan: Okinawa, Chiba, Nagasaki, Ehime, and Hiroshima Prefectures, Sendai City, Hokkaido, Niigata and Shizuoka Cities, and Osaka Prefecture (in order of holding)

○ FY2014

Period	From January 2015 to March 2015
Venue	8 places in Japan: Urayasu and Saitama Cities, Kagoshima Prefecture, Nagoya City, Iwate, Ibaraki and Yamanashi Prefectures and Tokyo (in order of holding)

(Main content)

- Keynote speech by a member of the Commission on Policy for Persons with Disabilities (about the draft of the Basic Policy)
 - Panel discussion with participation of disabled persons recommended by the venue
- * Note that the events in Urayasu City, Saitama City, Iwate Prefecture, and Tokyo in FY2014 were held as report meetings for the Organizational Development Project for the Regional Council to Support the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (a joint interim meeting of Chiba Prefecture and Urayasu City, interim meeting of Saitama City, interim meeting of Iwate Prefecture, and final meeting for all the local public entities).