

Drug Abuse Prevention Strategy Acceleration Plan

July 2010

Council for Promoting Measures to Prevent Drug Abuse

Objective 1

To eradicate drug abuse by young people and boost normative consciousness to deny drug abuse

■ **Further improving and strengthening instruction and education that contribute to drug abuse prevention**

◆ **Improving school education, etc.**

- To raise the implementation rate of “drug abuse prevention class” by, for example, providing prefectural boards of education, etc. with information about the effective efforts of prefectures that have already implemented the class at high rates (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and National Police Agency)
- To improve guidance methods by preparing and distributing new teaching materials for teachers to be used as reference for providing effective guidance on drug abuse prevention (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- To improve awareness among university students, etc. on drug abuse prevention, by providing to universities, etc. with information on cases of progressive and effective efforts by universities, etc. nationwide (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and National Police Agency)

◆ **Strengthening preventive education**

- To promote the implementation of education and guidance on drug abuse prevention in training programs for new employees, at coming-of-age ceremonies, and various other venues where young people gather, as well as to offer support such as providing information on teaching materials for education and guidance and on instructors (National Police Agency, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and Cabinet Office)
- To promote educational efforts through various forms and media, such as computer screen savers at Internet cafes, etc., Drug Abuse Prevention Caravan Cars, and activities at driver’s license test centers, etc. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, National Police Agency, and Cabinet Office)
- To strive to gain public understanding and support for drug abuse prevention centering on illegal drugs such as cannabis (which is raising concerns because of its widespread use among young

people), through activities jointly run by the public and private sectors (Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)

- To actively commend organizations, etc. for their distinguished service in providing rehabilitation support for young drug abusers and organizing “drug abuse prevention class”, etc. (Cabinet Office)
- To improve the website of the Council for Promoting Measures to Prevent Drug Abuse, in order to actively distribute materials and data that can be used in drug abuse prevention education and guidance, as well as information on efforts in Japan and abroad to prevent relapse into drug abuse (Cabinet Office)
- To study and examine the effectiveness of past publicity and educational activities and make efforts to improve future publicity and educational activities (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- To establish a forum for discussing publicity and educational activities for drug abuse prevention across relevant government ministries and agencies, and make efforts toward their effective and efficient implementation by eliminating duplications and through appropriate role-sharing, in order to improve and strengthen such activities (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, National Police Agency, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and Cabinet Office)

Objective 2

To prevent relapse into drug abuse by supporting the treatment and reintegration into society of drug dependents/addicts and by enriching the support of their families

■ Enhancing efforts to prevent relapses into drug abuse and measures concerning withdrawal from drug dependence

◆ Strengthening frameworks of these efforts

- To establish a forum for considering measures to prevent relapses into drug abuse from the stage of pre-sentencing detention across relevant government ministries and agencies, and make efforts to promote such measures (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Justice,

National Police Agency, and Cabinet Office)

- To deepen cooperation among relevant organizations (medical institutions, law-enforcement agencies, administrative agencies, etc.) involved in the treatment of drug dependents/addicts and support for their reintegration into society, by utilizing the Conference on Measures against Drug Addiction, which is engaged in the exchange of information and views in local communities (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Justice, and National Police Agency)
- To promote the enhancement of seminars on measures to prevent drug relapses, held with the aim of deepening understanding of drug dependence and drug addicts, in order to boost awareness and knowledge on relapse-prevention throughout local communities (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)

◆ **Considering systems, etc.**

- To make efforts toward the introduction of the system for drug-related crimes, which allows suspension of execution of the sentence in part with probation, in which, after the treatment at penal institutions, further treatment within society is implemented for the period of suspended execution, in order to prevent recidivism by drug dependents (Ministry of Justice)
- To review the way that information is being shared on guidance for overcoming drug addiction by, for example, considering an expansion of information content, such as guidance results, to be shared between penal institutions and offenders rehabilitation offices (Ministry of Justice)

◆ **Improving treatment and support, etc.**

- To strengthen measures that would help prevent persons arrested for drug-related crimes from relapsing into drug abuse, and make efforts to support activities by private-sector organizations and facilitate coordination among relevant organizations to this end (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- To consider ways of providing effective assistance on relapse-prevention for drug-related unsentenced inmates, such as including drug abuse prevention-related materials among books to be lent, in light of their legal status (Ministry of Justice)
- To provide guidance for overcoming drug addiction, in principle, all “Treatment Index-A” prisoners (prisoners without an advanced criminal tendency) who has been deemed hindered

from reformation and rehabilitation or from smooth re-entry into society due to dependence on drugs, while raising the implementation rate of said guidance for other prisoners, and make efforts to improve and strengthen necessary frameworks to this end (Ministry of Justice)

- To improve and strengthen guidance on relapse-prevention at probation offices for “Treatment Index-A” prisoners to be released on parole who didn’t receive guidance for overcoming drug addiction at penal institutions (Ministry of Justice)
- To actively hold acceptor’s meetings for acceptors of drug-related offenders at probation offices, in order to enhance support that includes families, etc. (Ministry of Justice)
- To actively provide vocational support to persons released from prison, including drug-related offenders, by cooperating with Public Employment Security Offices and other relevant organizations (Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)

◆ **Promoting measures for withdrawal**

- To actively carry out local model projects for the promotion of measures against addiction, which are being implemented at the prefectural, government-ordinance-designated city, and core city levels, in order to promote measures against drug dependence and other types of addiction in local communities (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- To make efforts toward the development and spread of recovery programs for drug dependents, and at the same time strive to share the results with local governments and other relevant organizations (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- To provide staff training at addiction-recovery facilities, such as private rehabilitation centers, in order to offer effective support to drug-dependent patients, etc. based on medical knowledge (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- To actively promote research on treatment methods and mechanisms for drug dependence, for which a fundamental treatment method currently does not exist (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)

◆ **Promoting education and information provision**

- To actively engage in efforts to prevent drug relapses through the cooperation of relevant government ministries and agencies, by distributing educational materials to drug-related

offenders and their families to help deepen their understanding of drug dependence, by improving the website of the Council for Promoting Measures to Prevent Drug Abuse, etc. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice, and Cabinet Office)

Objective 3

To eliminate illicit drug trafficking organizations and exercise thorough control over end-users

■ **Exercising thorough control over drug-related offenses and strengthening mutual cooperation among relevant organizations**

◆ **Promoting thorough control and distribution measures**

- To implement, by enhancing cyber patrol, thorough control over drug-related offenses that use the Internet, thorough requests to remove illegal information, etc., while at the same time promoting thorough arrests in particular of purchasers and sellers of cannabis seeds on charges of illicit cultivation, aiding illicit cultivation, etc. (National Police Agency)
- To exercise deterrence and control over illicit drug trafficking offenses on the street by promoting crime-prevention measures, such as cooperating with crime-prevention networks of local governments, local residents, businesses, etc., and expanding security camera installations (National Police Agency)
- To strengthen efforts to determine the actual situation regarding areas where foreign residents gather and live in Japan, etc., while at the same time promoting joint control among relevant organizations, in view of globalization of illicit drug trafficking organizations run by foreigners (National Police Agency, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and Ministry of Justice)
- To implement thorough guidance, supervision, and control of medical institutions, etc. and promote measures against illegal trafficking, in order to prevent psychotropic drugs and other drugs in legal distribution from illegally falling into the hands of drug abusers (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and National Police Agency)
- To strengthen guidance, supervision, and control of businesses dealing with raw materials, etc. of stimulant drugs, narcotics, and psychotropic drugs, while at the same time exercising

thorough control of illicit drug-manufacturing offenses, in order to prevent such materials from being illegally imported and exported, and from illegally falling into the hands of drug-related offenders (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Finance)

◆ **Strengthening cooperation among law-enforcement agencies and related organizations**

- To further enhance internal cooperation within each law-enforcement agency as well as mutual collaboration among related organizations, while at the same time promoting the sharing of information on anti-drug-crime measures, investigation techniques, etc. by utilizing forums such as regional drug-enforcement councils, which are regional meetings designed for information exchange, in order to tighten control over illicit drug trafficking offenses that are spreading across wider areas (National Police Agency, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, and Japan Coast Guard)
- To take special care to present evidence in trials in an easy-to-understand manner in order to obtain saiban-in's understanding of the negative impact of drug-related offenses on society, in view of trials involving saiban-in on commercial drug-smuggling offenses, etc. (Ministry of Justice, National Police Agency, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Finance, and Japan Coast Guard)

Objective 4

To interdict drug smuggling thoroughly at the border and promote international cooperation

- **Enhancing international coordination and cooperation, as well as exercising thorough control at the border**

◆ **Enhancing international coordination and cooperation**

- To make efforts to build a framework of international cooperation between customs authorities, such as concluding new bilateral customs mutual-assistance agreements with source or transit countries of drugs, while at the same time strengthening existing cooperative relationships (Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- To implement stricter trade control of raw materials for drugs by strengthening cooperation with the U.N. International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and other international organizations

(Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

- To promote an international information-sharing system for information on distribution , analysis methods, harmful effects, etc. of substances that are not regulated by the three narcotics conventions and whose addictive properties cannot be denied (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- To strengthen collaboration and cooperation with relevant foreign organizations, etc., by promoting such efforts as welcoming customs officials and maritime safety authority officials of developing countries to take part in training programs in Japan and dispatching Japanese customs officials and other drug-control officers overseas (Ministry of Finance, Japan Coast Guard, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)

◆ **Exercising thorough control at the border**

- To further strengthen mutual cooperation among relevant organizations in order to share and aggregate information and actively promote joint investigations, while at the same time tightening the border control system for illicit drugs, etc. at regional airports and ports in light of recent spread of smuggling activities (Ministry of Finance, Japan Coast Guard, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- To strengthen the effectiveness of surveillance and control of drug-smuggling offenses at airports, ports, and harbors by enhancing information-gathering and analysis capabilities through the upgrading and development of equipment and materials, such as information databases and surveillance cameras, and constructing high speed and high specification coast guard patrol vessels and aircrafts (Ministry of Finance, Japan Coast Guard, National Police Agency, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- To inform and alert the public in Japan (including airports) of the laws and regulations, penalty situation, etc. of drug-related offenses in foreign countries, in particular Asian countries, in view of cases in which Japanese nationals are recruited to serve as drug couriers in Japan and abroad (National Police Agency, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- To promote efforts to determine the source and transit countries of raw materials by making active use of techniques to identify regions where illicit drugs are manufactured through the analysis of drug components (signature analysis), while at the same time enhancing the

technology to analyze the trends of abused drugs (National Police Agency, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Finance, and Japan Coast Guard)