

Japan's National Bioethics Committee(s)

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CSTP chaired by Prime Minister

Expert Panel on promotion strategy of prioritized areas

Expert Panel on evaluation

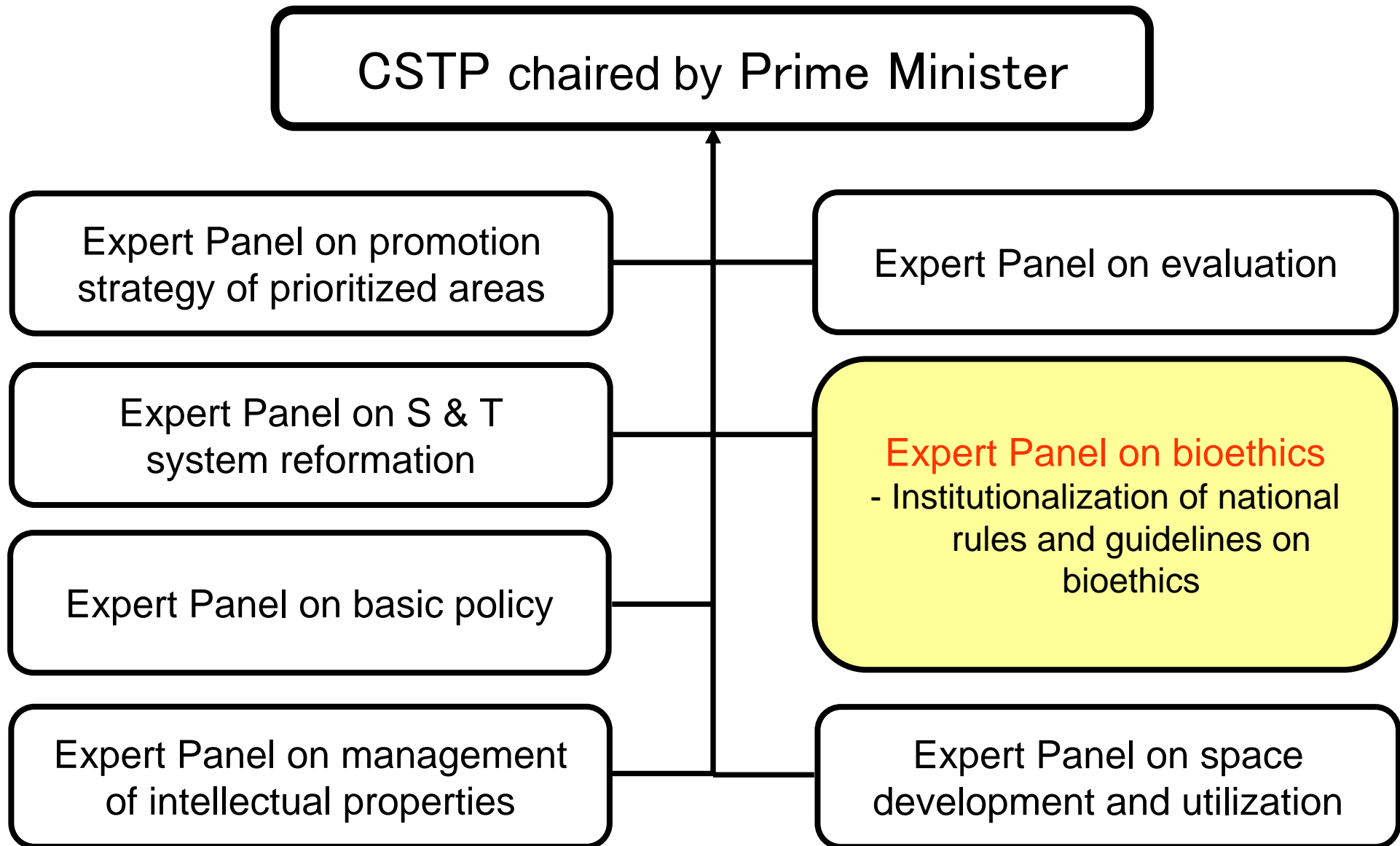
Expert Panel on S & T system reformation

Expert Panel on bioethics
- Institutionalization of national rules and guidelines on bioethics

Expert Panel on basic policy

Expert Panel on management of intellectual properties

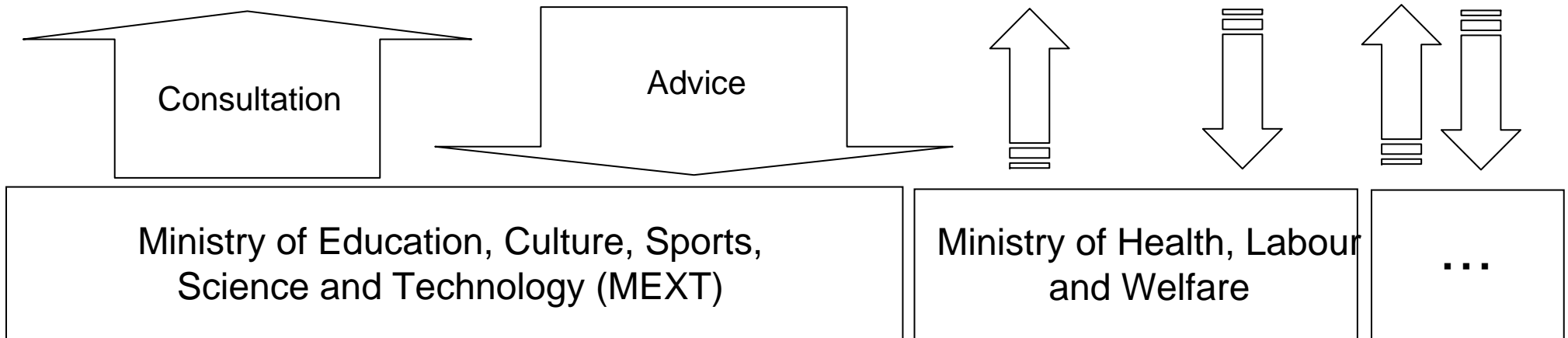
Expert Panel on space development and utilization



Regulatory System for Bioethics

CSTP :The Expert Panel on Bioethics

- Fundamental Policy on Creation of Human Individual by Cloning Techniques (formulated in November 1999)
- Fundamental Policy on Human Embryo Research Focused on Human ES Cells (formulated in March 2000)
- Fundamental Principles of Research on the Human Genome (formulated in June 2000)
- Fundamental Policy on Handling of Human Embryos (formulated in July 2004)



Law and Guidelines on Bioethics

Law

Act on Regulation of Human Cloning Techniques
(enacted in November 2000)

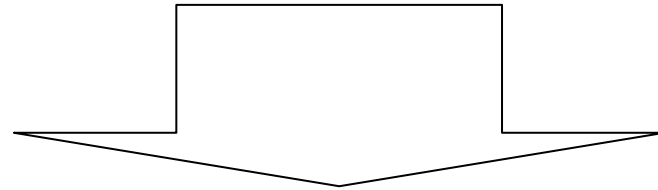
Guidelines

- Ethical Guidelines for Analytical Research on the Human Genome/Genes (2001)
- The Guidelines for Derivation and Utilization of Human Embryonic Stem Cells (2001)
- The Guidelines for Specified Embryos (2001)

Hot Topic 1 :Therapeutic Cloning

CSTP

Fundamental Policy on Handling of Human Embryos (2004)
: Lifting of the ban on therapeutic cloning research



MEXT

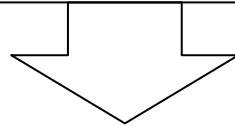
Revision of the relative guidelines

- Limitation of research purpose
- Requirement for institutions and researchers
- Conditions for procurement of unfertilized eggs and somatic cells
- Protection of donors

Hot Topic 2 :Artificial Gametes

Background

- Expectation for the development of treatment and diagnosis of incurable diseases concerning gametes
- Advances of science in creation of gametes from pluripotent stem cells (iPS cells)
- Development of understanding of ethical issues in case of the utilization of ES cells in accordance with ES guidelines



MEXT is considering the revision of ES guidelines to...

- Relax the regulation on creation of artificial gametes from ES cells
- Ban creation of an embryo from the artificial gametes