

Pillar 1 : Principles for Peace and Rules for Prosperity

Case (6): Promotion of “business and human rights” as international value

1. Basic concept

- In 2011, the “Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)” was endorsed by consensus at the 17th session of the Human Rights Council. The working group established based on the resolution encouraged formulation of a national action plan to promote implementation of the UNGPs.
- The Government of Japan formulated “National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP)” in October 2020. In 2021, it newly appointed Special Advisor to the Prime Minister for international human rights issues.
- In December 2021, Prime Minister Kishida declared that his administration places great importance on maintaining and strengthening the international order, which is based on the universal values and rules such as freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. He said, “I am determined to work extensively on maintaining and strengthening this international order, with our efforts to include dealing with international human rights issues.”

⇒ **We will support establishing an environment and developing regulations and institutions in which human rights are respected in the Indo-Pacific region.**

2. Items of cooperation

- Promotion of Responsible Business Conduct
(Examples) Providing supports through international organizations in target countries, where a number of Japanese businesses operate including Southeast Asian countries such as Indonesia and Vietnam, as follows;
 - training on human rights due diligence to businesses and their suppliers,
 - supporting the governments formulating national action plans on “business and human rights”.
- Support for development and operation of laws, regulations and policies to protect the rights of workers, of human rights due diligence, and of grievance mechanisms
(Examples) the capacity-building of government agencies in developing countries through technical cooperation, and human rights due diligence training targeted at personnel concerned with ODA projects
- Strengthening networks for promoting respect for human rights
(Examples) Promotion of platform activities with private companies, NGOs, etc. with the aim of eliminating child labor and promoting acceptance of foreign workers (“Platform of Sustainable Cocoa in Developing Countries” and “Japan Platform for Migrant Workers Towards Responsible and Inclusive Society: JP-MIRAI”), and international dissemination through coordination with international organizations

Promotion of initiatives on “business and human rights” as an international value

- Promotion of Responsible Business Conduct
- Supporting for introducing human rights due diligence among businesses in various countries
- Boosting formulation of a national action plan on business and human rights in various countries

