

Outline of Standards for Evaluation of Incorporated Administrative Agencies under the Jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (draft revision)

<Background of revision>

The “Standards for Evaluation of Incorporated Administrative Agencies under the Jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology” (decided by the Minister of MEXT on June 30, 2015) (hereinafter referred to as “the Standards”) set forth standards necessary for evaluating incorporated administrative agencies under the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology on the basis of the Guidelines for Incorporated Administrative Agency Evaluation (decided by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications on September 2, 2013) (hereinafter referred to as “the Guidelines for Evaluation”) to be formulated based on Article 28-2, paragraph 1 of the Act on General Rules for Incorporated Administrative Agencies (Act No.103 of 1999).

The Standards will be revised based on the revision of the Guidelines for Evaluation and the “Guidelines on Objectives Formulation of the Incorporated Administrative Agencies” (decided by the Minister of MIC on September 2, 2013) (hereinafter referred to as the “Guidelines for Objectives Formulation”) after going through past examinations and deliberations by the Committee on the System of Evaluating Incorporated Administrative Agencies responsible for checking, as a third-party organization, objectives formulation of agencies and evaluations of business performance by the competent minister.

<Major revisions of the Standards>

In order to enhance the effectiveness of evaluations by competent ministers, we added the evaluation point in solving specific policy issues, which was to be incorporated in the agencies’ objectives with the revision of the Guidelines for Objectives Formulation, and made the following revisions.

(1) Clear indication of specific methods of utilizing evaluations of incorporated administrative agencies

The following matters are clearly indicated as specific methods of utilizing evaluations of incorporated administrative agencies made by competent ministers so that they can be utilized for improving their activities.

- i) Improvement of departments whose accomplishment of the objectives is poor (including the re-distribution of resources)
- ii) Further improvement of departments whose accomplishment of the objectives is good (including the re-distribution of resources)
- iii) Promotion of efforts for further improvement through evaluation efforts for improving activities (e.g. raising a rating under “C” to “B” or higher in the following fiscal year through improving activities)

(2) Decision on priority of annual evaluations of incorporated administrative agencies whose objectives are managed on a mid to long-term basis

We make the annual business performance evaluation of incorporated administrative agencies whose objectives are managed (e.g. agencies with medium-term objectives and national research and development agencies) on a mid to long-term basis with a focus on issues relating to business operations that pose an obstacle to achieve objectives, taking into account the purpose of the system of incorporated administrative agencies that the activities of each incorporated administrative agency during the objective period should be left to its autonomy and independence.

(3) Making evaluation units more flexible

For the purpose of making evaluations by incorporated administrative agencies easier so that they can be utilized to improve their activities by approximating the evaluation units for self-evaluation by incorporated administrative agencies and those for actual operation management, the evaluation units become more flexible for items other than priority items shown in (2) with respect for the actual conditions of operation management by incorporated administrative agencies as much as possible.

(4) Simplification in creating evaluation documents

In cases where there is not much difference between “estimated evaluation” (evaluation of the operating results by the fiscal year immediately prior to the end of the objective period) and “evaluation of the operating results during the period” (evaluation of the operating results by the end of the objective period), “estimated evaluations” can also be utilized for “evaluation of the operating results during the period”.

Moreover, In cases where both the self-evaluation by any incorporated administrative agency and the evaluation by its competent minister are “B” with respect to the annual business performance evaluation, the description of “reasons for evaluation” in the column of “Evaluation by the Competent Minister” can be simplified.

(5) Introduction of the viewpoint of the degree of difficulty of objectives to the evaluation standards

The evaluation standards were reviewed from the viewpoint of promoting the setting of more difficult objectives and their achievement. If difficult objectives are achieved, a mark of “A” or higher (an achievement over the original objective was made) is granted.