

Preface

This White Paper reports on Japan's measures that have been implemented to promote science and technology, as stipulated in Article 8 of the Science and Technology Basic Law (Law No. 130 of 1995).

Part 1 introduces a wide spectrum of trends in S&T activities to help the reader better understand Japan's policies, described in Part 2. Titled *The State of Science and Technology in Transcending the Storm of Fierce International Competition*, Part 1 considers the innovation that must be generated through science and technology for Japan to cope with the increasingly fierce international competition.

The statistical overview of Japan's S&T activities contained in Part 2 of previous White Papers is compiled in a separate MEXT publication, entitled *Indicators of Science and Technology*.