

Introductory Remarks

This document reports on policies for promoting science and technology based on the provisions of Article 8 of The Science and Technology Basic Law (Law No. 130, 1995).

Part 1 of this report explains the trends in important policies related to science and technology, toward helping the reader to understand policies formulated in relation to the promotion of science and technology, discussed in Part 2.

This document focuses on “human resources”, which play the main role in science, technology and innovation. Based on the changes in domestic and international socioeconomic circumstances and on current circumstances regarding human resources, this document presents the basic directions for strengthening the development of human resources. At the same time, it analyzes and classifies the initiatives currently under way and the issues to be addressed, and it clarifies the directions of initiatives that should be taken in the future.

The opening feature articles of this white paper are "Initiatives for recovery and reconstruction after the Great East Japan Earthquake through science and technology" and "Science and Technology Development toward the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2020".