

**ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS 2002-2003**

**JAPAN**

**PROJECT 1: PROMOTING EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OECD ANTI-BRIBERY CONVENTION**

*1. Summary*

<b>Country:</b>	Japan
<b>Project title:</b>	Promoting Effective Implementation of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention
<b>Priority reform area:</b>	Pillar 2 – Strengthening Anti-Bribery Actions and Promoting Integrity in Business Operations
<b>Implementing institution(s) and contact person:</b>	Policy Planning Unit-Chief Intellectual Property Policy Office Economic and Industrial Policy Bureau Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) Mr. Yasunori GOKE  Second International Organizations Division Economic Affairs Bureau Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Masayasu MATSUDAIRA
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year
<b>Budget/inputs required:</b>	N/A

*2. Contextual Framework*

The OECD Working Group on Bribery (“WGB”) conducts an evaluation of each of its member countries within the framework of the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (“Convention”), which came into force in February 1999. This evaluation aims to build a level playing field among member countries, and is divided into two phases:

Phase 1 evaluates whether the implementing legislation meets the standard of the Convention, and Phase 2 evaluates whether the legislation is applied in practice. Japan values the Convention as one of the strongest and most effective instruments in fighting corruption and bribery.

In October 1999, the WGB conducted a phase 1 evaluation of Japan and recommended that Japan takes actions on several points of its implementing legislation, which includes *inter alia* the Unfair Competition Prevention Law (“UCPL”).

**3. Project Details**

**3.1. Objectives of the Project**

- To amend the UCPL in line with the recommendation of the WGB.

**3.2. Main components of the Project**

- To remove the so-called “main office” exception from the UCPL; and
- To broaden the definition of foreign public officials in relation to public enterprises, by enacting a government ordinance.

**3.3. Results/Expected Outcomes**

- Level playing field among the OECD member countries will be strengthened; and
- Expression of Japan’s determination to fight corruption.

**4. Scope/Duration**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Nov 2001	Public notice
25 Dec 2001	Law and government ordinance entered into force
April 2002	Phase 1bis evaluation by WGB

**5. Required Inputs and budget in USD:** N/A

**6. Operating Environment/Implementation:** N/A

**7. Other Relevant Projects in the Priority Area:** N/A

**8. Organisations Locally Consulted on the Project**

- Intellectual Property Policy Office
- Economic and Industrial Policy Bureau
- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

8.1. *Civil society organisations*

- Keidanren (Japan Federation of Economic Organization)
- Japan Foreign Trade Council

8.2. Donors: *N.A.*