

Symposium on Business and Human Rights

~Implementing Responsible Business and Human Rights expectations and standards in Japan~

As the momentum for ESG investment is increasing, the issue of “business and human rights” has been drawing more attention. At the same time, business efforts towards implementing the SDGs has been gaining attention internationally. As the Government of Japan is currently formulating its National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, and will be hosting the 2020 Olympic Games, sharing progress and discussing the challenges on responsible business and human rights is timely for policy makers and practitioners.

This Symposium aims to share practical insights from BPFs “CSR Forum Japan” most recent research on human rights risks arising from the use of new technologies within direct, domestic business operations in Japan, as well as along the global supply chain. The results of BPF’s recent survey (March 2019) of listed and mid-cap companies will also be presented. The survey focused on current practices and the challenges Japanese companies face in implementing responsible business conduct related to human rights risks.

In addition, this Symposium will introduce the Japanese version of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct which provides practical guidance to companies in carrying out due diligence to identify and address human rights, environmental, labour and other risks in their operations and supply chains. This will also provide an opportunity to present other OECD due diligence tools, notably guidance developed for the financial sector.

Drawing on the above presentations, the Symposium facilitate discussion of ongoing efforts undertaken by Japanese companies and challenges they face to address human rights risks in supply chains.

Fri, 7 June 2019, 13.00–17.00 (venue open at 12.30)

Venue: Tokyo Stock Exchange, 2-1, Kabutocho, Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo

(<https://www.jpx.co.jp/english/corporate/about-jpx/access/index.html>)

- **Entry fee: Free**
- **Organizer: Business Policy Forum Japan**
- **Co-organizer: Japan Exchange Group, OECD**
- **Support: KEIDANREN (Japan Business Federation), MOFA, METI**
- **Language: Japanese and English (with simultaneous interpreting)**

Program

13.00 Opening remarks

13.15 Keynote speech

- Dante Pesce (UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights)
- Cristina Tebar Less (Head of Responsible Business Conduct Unit, OECD)
- Tetsuyuki Kagaya (Chairperson, CSR Forum Japan and Associate professor, Hitotsubashi University)

14.45 Panel Discussion

【Panel I “Promoting respect for human rights in supply chains”】

Moderator – Hidemi Tomita (Board Member, Lloyd’ Register Japan, Member of the CSR Forum Japan)

Panelists

- Youzou Nakao (Ajinomoto Co.)
- Masahiro Sato (Mizuno Corporation)
- Kenta Oshima (Kirin Holdings Company, Limited.)
- Minako Takaba (Executive Director, head of ESG Japan research, MSCI)
- Kanae Doi (Head of Tokyo Chapter, Human Rights Watch)
- Kenichi Masamoto (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

【Panel II “National Action Plan of Japan to implement the Basic Principle of Human Rights Framework”】

Moderator – Miwa Yamada (Director, Law and Institution Studies Group, IDE-JETRO)

Panelists

- Masatoshi Sugiura (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)
- Masao Seki (KEIDANREN (Japan Business Federation))
- Kaori Kuroda (Director, CSO network)
- Daisuke Takahashi (Partner, Shinwa Sohgo Law Offices)
- Daniel Ockenfeld (First Secretary, Economic Affairs, Germany Embassy)

17.00 Close

Registration: Please use the attached registration form

- Registration closes on 31 May
- For more information, please contact Hiroaki Konishi, Business Policy Forum Japan (E-mail konishi@bpf-f.or.jp)