

Management Discussion and Analysis

Analysis of Business Results for the Fiscal Year

The business environment surrounding the SBI Group during the current period was favorable in Japan in the beginning of the fiscal year under review. This was against the backdrop of the strong performance primarily of export-related stocks driven by anticipation for an improved corporate performance and shareholder return along with the increasingly firmer tone of the U.S. dollar against the yen in the foreign exchange market. From late August 2015, however, players' moves to evade risks became active due to stock declines worldwide caused by concerns about the Chinese economic slowdown, uncertainties over the U.S. monetary policy, and a sharp appreciation of the yen and falling stock prices, and the market tone turned bearish. Looking at trends overseas, the stock markets in major countries remained weak due to the impact of steps toward normalizing the monetary policy in the U.S. and uncertain economic outlook for some emerging countries, notably China. Under these circumstances, the Group's consolidated results of operations for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016 were as follows: Revenue increased 5.8% year-on-year to ¥261,744 million, profit before income tax expense decreased 17.2% year-on-year to ¥52,227 million, and profit attributable to owners of the Company decreased 25.4% year-on-year to ¥34,115 million.

Financial Services Business

Revenue of the Financial Services Business decreased 0.7% year-on-year to ¥159,012 million, and profit before income tax expense declined 24.2% year-on-year to ¥50,458 million.

SBI SECURITIES Co., Ltd. maintained a stable expansion in its customer base, as the total number of accounts reached approximately 3,564 thousand as of the end of the fiscal year under review, for an increase of approximately 318 thousand accounts from the end of the previous fiscal year. While the total individual stock brokerage trading value for Japan's two major stock markets (TSE and NSE) fell 1.7% year-on-year, SBI SECURITIES recorded a 6.7% growth in stock brokerage trading value. In addition, SBI SECURITIES had significant increases in financial revenue and trust fees from investment trusts, owing to the favorable growth in open interest credit balance of margin trading and the investment trust balance. As a result, profit before income tax expense (based on IFRSs) of SBI SECURITIES Co., Ltd. for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016 increased 8.7% year-on-year to ¥37,850 million.

SBI Insurance Co., Ltd. continued to see significant growth in the number of contracts for auto insurance and thoroughly reduced costs, which contributed to the significant improvement in profit before income tax expense (based on IFRSs) to ¥90 million (loss before income tax expense of ¥618 million in the previous fiscal year).

SBI Sumishin Net Bank, Ltd., accounted for by the equity method, achieved a total deposit balance of ¥3,446.9 billion, with the number of accounts increasing steadily to 2,585 thousand as of the end of March 31, 2016. However, the bank recorded a loss on sales of some of the bonds held. As a result,

investment income under the equity method declined 34.8% year-on-year to ¥3,385 million.

Asset Management Business

Revenue of the Asset Management Business increased 38.4% year-on-year to ¥98,725 million, and profit before income tax expense surged 101.8% year-on-year to ¥17,996 million. In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016, the number of newly listed companies started to decrease on a global level, but the number of IPOs in Japan (excluding TOKYO PRO Market listings) trended favorably to 94 companies, 8 more than that of the previous fiscal year. A total of 16 investee companies of the SBI Group transacted IPO and M&A deals (5 companies in Japan and 11 companies overseas), with respect to the Asset Management Business. Meanwhile, a valuation gain was recorded as a result of fluctuations in fair value measurement of stock prices mainly of listed investee companies. In addition, South Korea-based SBI SAVINGS BANK, which became a consolidated subsidiary in March 2013 and has completed business revitalization, continued on a solid performance due largely to a steady increase in performing loans and a gradual decrease in delinquency rate, contributing greatly to the operating results of the Asset Management Business.

Biotechnology-related Business

Revenue of the Biotechnology-related Business rose 84.3% year-on-year to ¥4,021 million, and profit before income tax expense was a loss of ¥6,572 million (loss of ¥7,310 million for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015). In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016, SBI Biotech Co., Ltd. received an upfront fee of \$20 million following renewal of the option contract for the drug discovery pipeline of Quark Pharmaceuticals, Inc., its wholly owned subsidiary in the U.S., in the second quarter. In addition, SBI ALApromo Co., Ltd. launched "ALApplus Tou (Sugar) Down," the first food with functional claims containing 5-Aminolevulinic Acid ("5-ALA") in December 2015. As a result, the number of shops selling 5-ALA products increased sharply, leading to a surge in sales.

SBI Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd. has been proceeding with clinical trials in Japan on an intraoperative diagnostic drug for bladder cancer and on formulations for treating chemotherapy-induced anemia and for treating mitochondrial diseases. Overseas, SBI Pharmaceuticals has been working closely with the government of Bahrain in performing clinical research on food and pharmaceutical products using 5-ALA. In addition, SBI ALA Hong Kong made photonamic GmbH & Co. KG a wholly owned subsidiary in January 2016. In these ways, SBI Pharmaceuticals is developing R&D and sales frameworks aimed at global deployment of the 5-ALA-related business.

Cash Flows

As at March 31, 2016, total assets amounted to ¥3,126,784 million and decreased by ¥273,979 million from total assets of ¥3,400,763 million as at March 31, 2015. The Group's equity

decreased by ¥11,552 million to ¥419,063 million from the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015. As at March 31, 2016, the Group's cash and cash equivalents amounted to ¥248,050 million and decreased by ¥42,776 million from that of ¥290,826 million as at March 31, 2015. The changes of cash flows for each activity and the reasons for changes are as follows:

Operating Cash Flows

Cash flows from operating activities amounted to ¥32,478 million in net cash inflows (¥36,197 million in net cash outflows for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015). The net cash inflows were primarily due to a ¥52,227 million cash inflow from profit before income tax expense and a ¥59,883 million cash inflow from an increase in customer deposits in the banking business, despite a ¥58,514 million cash outflow from an increase in accounts receivables and other receivables and a ¥19,336 million cash outflow from income taxes paid.

Investing Cash Flows

Cash flows from investing activities amounted to ¥11,179 million in net cash inflows (¥52,305 million in net cash inflows for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015). The net cash inflows were primarily due to a ¥70,533 million cash inflow from proceeds from sales or redemption of investment securities, despite a ¥57,693 million cash outflow from purchases of investment securities.

Financing Cash Flows

Cash flows from financing activities amounted to ¥76,230 million in net cash outflows (¥15,524 million in net cash outflows for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015). The net cash outflows were primarily due to a ¥108,085 million cash outflow from decrease in short term loans payable, a ¥30,146 million cash outflow from repayment of long-term loans payable, a ¥24,088 million cash outflow from redemption of bonds payable and a ¥15,030 million cash outflow from purchase of treasury stock, despite a ¥59,690 million cash inflow from proceeds from long-term loans payable and a ¥56,103 million cash inflow from proceeds from bond issuance.

Forward-looking descriptions provided herein are based on judgments of the Company as of June 29, 2016.

Risk

Business risks related to business conditions, financial status, and other factors that may potentially have significant influence on investor decisions include the following. From the point of disclosing information, the Group has also listed risk factors below, which may not completely match these investment decisions. In recognizing these latent risks, the Group will work to avoid any such risks and take appropriate measures in the event that any such risk arises.

This section includes forward-looking statements, which reflect the Group's views as of June 29, 2016.

- 1) The Group's corporate structure, which consists of a large number of public and private companies in multiple business lines, exposes the Group to challenges not found in companies with a single business line

The Group consists of portfolio companies operating in multiple industries, including financial services, asset management, biotechnology-related businesses, and other businesses. The Group also comprises of some publicly listed subsidiaries. Due to the diverse characteristics of the portfolio companies, the Group faces challenges not found in companies with a single business line. In particular, there are three aspects:

- the Group is exposed to business, market and regulatory risks relating to different industries. The Group needs to devote substantial resources to monitor changes in different operating environments, in order to react with appropriate strategies that fit the needs of the portfolio companies affected;
- due to the large number of portfolio companies involved, successful operation of the Group requires an effective management system that emphasizes accountability, imposes financial discipline on portfolio companies, and creates value-focused incentives for management. As the Group continues to grow through acquisitions of businesses in an increasing number of different industries, its operations will become more complex, which increases the difficulty of implementing its management system; and
- its portfolio companies in different operating segments may determine that it is in their respective shareholders' interests to pursue business ventures together. However there is no assurance that such business ventures will be successful or generate the synergies expected.

- 2) The Group's voting interests in its portfolio companies may be diluted

The Group's portfolio companies may become publicly traded, which will dilute the Group's voting interests in these entities. In addition, the Group's portfolio companies may from time to time need additional capital to achieve their growth strategy or other business objectives, and may issue additional shares or other equity securities to meet their capital needs. The Group may choose not to, or be unable to, subscribe for the securities offered in any such additional issuances by its portfolio companies. If the Group fails to subscribe for additional securities of a portfolio company on a pro-rata basis to its existing shareholding in such company, the equity interest in the portfolio company will be diluted.

A dilution in the Group's equity interest in a portfolio company would reduce its share of the profits earned by such a portfolio company, which may have an adverse effect on its financial condition and results of operations. Further, if the Group's ownership is reduced significantly, it may cause its representation on such company's annual general meeting to be reduced, or otherwise reduce its ability to direct or influence the operations of that portfolio company.

- 3) The growth expected in the market for the Group's online products and services may not materialize

The market in Japan for online financial products and services

continues to evolve. The Group's success depends substantially on continued growth in the use of online products and services, such as online brokerage services, Internet banking, Internet-based insurance products, and services for individuals. If this growth does not materialize, the Group's financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected. Factors that could discourage Japanese individuals from using online products and services include security or privacy concerns, inconsistent quality of service and frustration with actual or perceived difficulties in using the Internet to conduct brokerage and other financial transactions.

4) Changes in the legal or financial stability of, or cultural or business strategic differences with, any counterparties with whom the Group enters into joint ventures or alliances

The Group operates joint ventures and enters into alliances with foreign and domestic counterparties. The success of these operations is often dependent upon the financial and legal stability of its counterparties. If one of the counterparties with whom the Group operates a joint venture, or continues a business alliance with suffers a decline in its financial condition for any reason, or is subject to instability owing to a change to the laws governing its operations after an investment has been made in the joint venture or the business alliance, the Group may be unable to successfully operate the joint venture or alliance, or may be required to invest additional capital or cease operations altogether. Likewise, significant differences in corporate culture and business strategy between the Group and such partners may come to light, and may result in significant changes to the assumptions that the Group had made when deciding to enter into the joint venture or alliance. If the joint ventures or counterparties are unable to perform as expected, or if any unexpected events relating to the alliances occur, then the Group may be unable to continue those businesses successfully. The Group's inability to successfully operate joint ventures or alliances may adversely affect its reputation and its financial condition and results of operations.

5) Risks relating to business reputation

The Group is vulnerable to poor market perception and reputational risk, since it operates in industries where integrity and the trust and confidence of its clients are of utmost importance. Negative publicity (whether or not justified) associated with the Group or any of the funds, products and services offered by it, and its officers or employees, partners or alliances, or the occurrence of any of the risks set out in this section may result in a loss of clients and/or mandates. The Group's business operations are highly dependent on its officers, employees, partners, and/or alliances. The actions, misconduct, omissions, failures, or breaches of any of its officers or employees, partners and/or alliances may, by association, create negative publicity in relation to the Group. Accordingly, any mismanagement, fraud or failure to discharge legal, contractual, regulatory or fiduciary duties, responsibilities, liabilities or obligations, or the negative perception resulting from such activities, or any allegation of such activities, may have an adverse effect on the Group's

business, growth prospects, results of operations, and/or financial condition. This may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, with the Group's business expansion and increasing publicity, if there are fraudulent persons or acts, which use trade names of the Group companies, the Group may be negatively affected by rumors regardless of lack of fault. This may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

6) Risks relating to business restructuring and expansion

As a "Strategic Business Innovator," one of the Group's basic policies involves working to perpetuate "Self Evolution."

In addition to business restructurings, the Group intends to aggressively pursue business expansion, including mergers and acquisitions ("M&A") of businesses that it believes offer favorable synergies with its core businesses. The Group faces the risk that its restructurings and business expansion activities may not produce the results that it expects. Failure to achieve expected results may have an adverse effect on the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

The Group may not be able to identify suitable investment opportunities, partners or acquisitions candidates. Even if the Group identifies suitable investment opportunities, partners or acquisitions candidates, it may be unable to negotiate terms that are commercially acceptable, or complete those transactions at all. With respect to its acquisitions, the Group may have difficulty in integrating these companies or businesses, including internal operations, distribution networks, product lines, and personnel, with its existing business, and there is no assurance that the expected strategic benefits of any acquisitions or alliances will be realized. The acquired companies may have low margins and require significant restructuring to increase their efficiency. In addition, the key personnel of an acquired company may decide not to work for the Group. The acquired company may involve a number of specific risks, including diversion of management's attention, higher costs, unanticipated events or circumstances, legal liabilities, failure of the business of the acquired company, fall in value of investments, and impairment of goodwill and other acquired intangible assets, some or all of which may have an adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations. In the event that the Group plans to acquire or invest in other companies, it may be required to obtain the prior approval of the relevant regulators and/or the government, and there can be no assurance that such approvals will be obtained in a timely manner, or at all. In addition, any acquisition of an overseas company will expose the Group to foreign exchange risks, foreign regulations applicable to its business and different environments that it may not be familiar with. In the event that such risk arises, it may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, the Group raises working capital through various means, including equity finance in the capital markets, share exchange, loans from financial institutions, and issuances of corporate bonds, etc. If a significant amount of such funding

is raised by way of debt, the Group's funding cost may increase due to factors such as a downgrade of the Group's credit ratings. Any of these factors may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

7) Risks relating to entering new businesses

Based on the management principle of "Endeavoring to Become a New Industry Creator," the Group is aggressively creating and nurturing new businesses. If the new businesses are unable to achieve their business plans as originally formulated, and if they are unable to record earnings commensurate with their initial investments, such failure may have an adverse effect on the financial condition and results of operations of the Group. In addition, the new businesses may become subject to new laws and regulations, or be placed under the guidance of particular regulatory authorities. Any violations by the new businesses of the laws, regulations, or guidance that is applicable to them, and any administrative or legal actions directed at them, may impede the conduct of their operations, and have an adverse effect on the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

8) Risks relating to a financial conglomerate

The Group is classified as a financial conglomerate as defined by the regulations of Japanese Financial Services Agency (the "FSA"). As a result, it is further strengthening its risk management and compliance systems in order to maintain financial soundness, and to conduct business activities properly. However, if subjected to an administrative action or other punishment by the FSA, for whatever reason, the Group may have difficulty conducting its business operations, or its financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected.

9) Risks relating to investment securities

The Group holds a significant amount of investment securities, including investments in associates. It may experience impairment losses on its investment securities as a result of declines in their value subject to the stock and bond market conditions, which may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

10) Litigation risk

The Group is exposed to litigation risk relating to the operations of its business segments on an ongoing basis. While the outcome of any pending or future litigation cannot be foreseen, given the inherent unpredictability of litigation, it is possible that an adverse outcome in any one or more matters may have an adverse effect on the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

11) Risk relating to risk management and internal control

The Group has established risk management and internal control systems and implementation procedures. Certain areas within the risk management and internal control systems may require constant monitoring, maintenance and continual improvements by the Group's senior management and staff. If

the efforts to maintain these systems are found to be ineffective or inadequate, the Group may be subject to sanctions or penalties, and its business prospects and reputation may be adversely affected.

The internal control system, no matter how sophisticated in design, still contains inherent limitations caused by misjudgment or fault. As such, there is no assurance that the risk management and internal control systems are adequate or effective notwithstanding the Group's efforts, and any failure to address any internal control matters and other deficiencies may result in investigations and/or disciplinary actions, or even prosecution being taken against the Group and/or its employees, disruption to the risk management system, and an adverse effect on the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

12) Risks relating to funding and liquidity

The Group raises working capital through various means, including equity finance in the capital markets, loans from financial institutions, and issuances of corporate bonds. Owing to the global economic crisis and the resulting deterioration in the global credit markets, including reduced lending by financial institutions, the Group may face difficulty raising funds under favorable conditions, or at all. In addition, potential downgrades to the Group's credit ratings could interfere with its ability to raise funds from external sources. In such circumstances, the Group's access to funds may be restricted, and the financing costs may increase. Any such events may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

13) Derivatives risk

The Group utilizes derivative instruments to reduce investment portfolio price fluctuations, and to manage interest rate and foreign exchange rate risk. However, it may not be able to successfully manage its risks through the use of such derivatives. Counterparties may fail to honor the terms of their derivatives contracts with the Group. Alternatively, the Group's ability to enter into derivative transactions may be adversely affected if its credit ratings are downgraded.

The Group may also suffer losses from trading activities, a part of which includes the use of derivative instruments, and as a result, its financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected.

14) Partial dependence on payments from the subsidiaries and other entities

The Group depends in part on dividends, distributions and others from its subsidiaries and other entities, such as partnerships and other investment vehicles, to fund payments, including its debt obligations. Regulatory and other legal restrictions, including contractual restrictions, may limit the Group's ability to transfer funds to or from the subsidiaries and other entities. Some of the subsidiaries and other entities which the Group depends on, in part, for payments are subject to laws and regulations that authorize regulatory bodies to block or reduce the flow of funds within the Group, or that prohibit such transfers altogether in certain circumstances. These laws and regulations

may hinder the ability to access funds that the Group may need to make payments on its obligations, which may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

15) Reliance on key personnel

The Group's business operations depend on the leadership of the Company's Representative Director, President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Yoshitaka Kitao, and other key members of the Group's management team. If one or more of the key personnel of the current management team becomes unable to continue operating the Group's businesses, such an event may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations. Any remedial action adopted by management to deal with a loss of key personnel may not take effect immediately, or at all.

16) Risks relating to employees

The Group employs personnel who are highly skilled and qualified, in its opinion, to work under the management team. If the Group is unable to continue to employ highly skilled and qualified personnel of the requisite caliber and skills, this may adversely affect its financial condition and results of operations.

17) Risks relating to trademarks and other intellectual property rights

The Group's businesses involve various types of intellectual property, including trademark rights, patents, copyrights, and other forms of intellectual property, particularly those related to "the SBI" brand. The Group relies on its ability to protect the intellectual property it owns and uses in its business. If it fails to sufficiently protect its intellectual property, or if it is unable to acquire the necessary licenses for the use of third-party intellectual property, the Group may experience difficulty in developing technologies or providing services. The Group may also become the subject of legal actions brought by third parties alleging infringement of their intellectual property. In addition, the Group may experience increased costs in connection with intellectual property, especially those related to patent. Such additional costs may have an adverse effect on its financial condition and results of operations.

18) Risks relating to enactment of, or changes in, laws, regulations and accounting standards

Enactment of, or changes in, laws and regulations may affect the way that the Group conducts its business, the products or services that it may offer in Japan or abroad, as well as the customers, borrowers, portfolio companies and funding sources. Such enactment or changes are unpredictable, and as a result of such enactment or changes, the Group's business activities, financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected.

Withdrawal or amendment of any regulatory approval, or of any exemption from registration in respect of any part of the Group's activities, or any of its funds in any jurisdiction might compel termination of a particular business, or change the way in which it is conducted. Similarly, the withdrawal of either a license or an approval of one or more individuals would hinder

their ability to perform their current role. The carrying on of regulated activities by unauthorized persons may have a number of consequences to the Group's business operations, including the possibility of agreements made in the course of carrying on such activities being unenforceable.

Enactment of, or changes in, accounting standards may have a significant effect on how the Group records and reports its financial condition and results of operations, even if the underlying business fundamentals remain the same. As a result of such enactment or changes, its business activities, financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected.

19) Risks relating to deferred tax assets

Temporary differences arising between the financial statements and the tax basis of assets and liabilities are posted to deferred tax assets, using the statutory effective tax rate applied when the difference is resolved.

If there is a tax reform and change in the statutory effective tax rate, the Group may reduce or increase the deferred tax assets. Such events may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

A valuation allowance is provided for deferred tax assets, if it is more likely than not that these items will either expire before the Group can realize their benefits, or that future deductibility is uncertain. Losses carried forward can be posted as deferred tax assets to the extent of the amount recoverable, and the Group posts deferred tax assets based on the assumption of recoverability.

Each Group company calculates the estimated future recoverable tax amount based on the expected amount of future taxable income. While the Group presumes that it is possible to realize the deferred tax assets after the valuation allowance, the amount of valuation allowance may fluctuate depending on changes in the expected amount of future taxable income. Such changes may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

20) Risks relating to insurance coverage

To manage operating risks, the Group companies may be covered by various insurance policies. However, there can be no assurance that all claims under such insurance policies will be honored fully, or on time. Furthermore, the Group is generally unable to insure against certain types of losses, including losses caused by earthquakes, typhoons, floods, wars and riots, and does not have business interruption insurance. To the extent that any of its portfolio companies suffer a loss or damage that is not covered by insurance, or that exceeds the limit of its insurance coverage, the Group's financial condition and results of operations and cash flows may be adversely affected.

21) Past results may not be indicative of future performance

The Group's historical financial information may not necessarily reflect its financial condition, or results of operations in the future. Slower growth may be expected in some of its businesses and it may not be successful in launching new businesses. New businesses may not achieve as quick, or as

significant a growth as anticipated, and the Group's multiple business strategy may not be successful, and it may not be able to successfully integrate future businesses, or assets into the existing operations. Such cases may result in significant interruptions to, or an adverse effect on the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

22) Risk associated with natural disasters, such as an earthquake, terrorist attack or other casualty event, in Japan or other markets in which the Group operates

A substantial portion of the Group's assets, as well as its head office, are located in Japan and a substantial portion of the net assets are derived from its operations in Japan. The Group's overseas operations are subject to similar or other disaster risks. Additionally, large disasters, outbreaks, terrorist attacks, or other casualty events affecting the Group's operational network, either in Japan or abroad, may disrupt the operations even in the absence of direct physical damage to the Group's properties. Due to a material economic downturn in the affected area or country caused by such disasters, the Group's financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected.

23) Risks relating to the Group's investments, development of the Group's business, funding and legal regulations in overseas operations

The Group is actively investing and promoting business development in overseas countries, as such, the Group is exposed to risks relating to increasing cost or loss unique to overseas business, owing to factors that differ from those in Japan, such as systems including but not limited to laws and regulations, business practice, economic status, corporate culture, consumer attitude, and other related matters in the overseas countries. The Group conducts its investment and business development operations in the overseas countries upon careful investigation and examination, followed by appropriate measures to mitigate any related risks. Nevertheless, if events occur that the Group could not initially foresee, then those events may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

Additionally, since the foreign shareholder ownership ratio of the Company remains high, it may be deemed that the Group is conducting financing activities in foreign countries, regardless of the Group's intention. As a result, the Group may be affected by foreign laws and regulations, particularly those concerning investor protection, and this may cause the Group's expenses to increase and restrict its business. Furthermore, the Group may increase foreign currency debt financing to hedge against foreign currency risks by borrowing from overseas financial institutions, or by issuing corporate bonds in overseas countries. Although the Group will conduct such financing upon careful investigation and examination of associated risk, events may nevertheless occur that the Group could not initially foresee, which may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

Recently, in addition to the above, the application of laws and regulations in overseas countries, such as the Bribery Act in the U.K. and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act in the U.S.,

might extend to the Group in other countries including Japan. The Group has responded to a variety of these laws and regulations after carefully investigating and examining them, but unexpected events may occur, since there are few precedents. Such cases may adversely affect the Group's financial condition and results of operations.

24) There is no guarantee of the accuracy of facts and statistics with respect to certain information obtained from official governmental sources and other data

Facts and statistics relating to Japan, the Japanese economy and the financial sector (including the financial services industry), and other sectors in which the Group operates are derived from official government or other industry sources, and are generally believed to be reliable. However, the Group cannot guarantee the quality or reliability of any such information, as it has not prepared, or verified the accuracy of the information received from such sources. The Group makes no representation as to the accuracy, or completeness of such facts and statistics from these sources. Furthermore, there can be no assurance that these sources have stated, or compiled such facts and figures on the same basis, or with the same degree of accuracy, or completeness, as may be the case elsewhere. In all cases, stakeholders should not unduly rely on these facts and statistics.

25) Risks with respect to transactions with anti-social forces

In order to preclude any transaction with a party that is suspected to have a relationship with an anti-social force, the Group has taken necessary measures with the objective of precluding all transactions with anti-social forces by, prior to entering into a new transaction, confirming whether any information with respect to a relationship with an anti-social force exists, and obtaining a representation and a letter in relation to the counterparty, of a pledge to the effect that the counterparty to the transaction is not an anti-social force. However, despite the Group's strict investigations, there may be cases where the Group has not been able to preclude a transaction with an anti-social force. If such transaction is found, the Group's business may be restricted, or suspended by regulatory or other authorities, etc., or the Group may be subject to a disposition, or order such as an administrative monetary penalty payment order, and its social reputation may also be impaired.