

# FY2025 Personal Information Protection Commission (PPC) Activity Policy (Summary)

March, 2025

Personal Information Protection Commission (PPC)

The PPC hereby sets out this policy to guide its activities for the period from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 (FY2025), in order to appropriately fulfill its role as the central authority of the personal information protection system. By effectively coordinating policies and overseeing the implementation of the system, the PPC aims to protect individuals' rights and interests, and ultimately ensure the safety and security of the general public. This policy also seeks to communicate the direction of these activities to the public, with the goal of fostering the PPC that earns and maintains public trust.

## I. Basic Approach

### ➤ Act on the Protection of Personal Information

- In light of international trends related to the protection of personal information, advances in information and communications technology, and the creation and development of new industries that use personal information, the PPC will proceed with the planning and formulating national policies on personal information, etc., including the triennial review of the Act on the Protection of Personal Information (hereafter referred to as "the APPI").
- To ensure proper handling of personal information, etc., the PPC will exercise appropriate, effective, and efficient supervision over domestic and foreign businesses while conducting proactive investigations as well as effective and efficient monitoring of administrative entities. The PPC will also actively engage in information dissemination and publicity on measures for managing the security of personal data, etc., to businesses and administrative entities.

### ➤ MY NUMBER Act

- To ensure proper handling of Specific Personal Information, the PPC will conduct appropriate, effective, and efficient monitoring and supervision revise guidelines, etc. as necessary, and actively engage in information dissemination and publicity.
- As regards the Specific Personal Information Protection Assessment, the PPC will continue to operate according to the purpose and provisions of the MY NUMBER Act while preparing for a revision of the Specific Personal Information Protection Assessment Guidelines.
- The PPC will continue to actively promote initiatives that contribute to the increased use of information linkages for processes specified by Prefectural/Municipal Ordinance using MY NUMBER.

### ➤ International Cooperation

- For the purpose of promoting and operationalizing Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT) in the field of personal information protection and privacy, the PPC will continue its commitment not to adopt an exclusive approach but to aim at realizing an international environment in which different personal information protection systems and international frameworks can be interoperable, while respecting the diversity of them and taking into account the needs of businesses.

## II. Specific Initiatives

### ➤ Act on the Protection of Personal Information

#### 1. The Triennial Review of the APPI

- The Supplementary Provisions of the APPI stipulates that the government is to review the implementation status of the APPI triennially after the enforcement of the 2020 Amendment of the APPI, and when necessary, to take appropriate measures.
- The PPC will continue to examine the institutional issues reorganized in January 2025 while maintaining dialogues with stakeholders.

#### 2. Forums for Continuous Exchange of Opinions with Experts and Stakeholders

- The PPC will hold a “Conference on Personal Information Protection Policy” and strive to grasp relevant technological and practical trends as well as various issues to contribute to the examination of overall personal information protection policies.

#### 3. Initiatives for the Smooth and Appropriate Application of the APPI in Administrative Entities

- To ensure the proper handling of personal information in administrative entities, the PPC will provide them with a wide range of support including providing advice, responding to inquiries, and holding practical training sessions.

#### 4. Monitoring and Supervision Activities

- The PPC will exercise its monitoring and supervision authority, including necessary guidance, advice, and recommendations, based on investigation and analysis of reported incidents, such as leakage and information received through the comprehensive inquiry desk. For cases in which our authority has been exercised, the PPC will publish summaries, etc. of individual cases on a quarterly basis, and for cases where disclosure is deemed necessary; the PPC will publish more detailed information. The PPC will also hold the Cybersecurity Liaison Meeting under the Act on the Protection of Personal Information with relevant government ministries and agencies on a quarterly basis.
- For administrative entities, the PPC will conduct planned firsthand inspections, implementation status surveys, and publish summaries of the results. The PPC will also provide necessary guidance, advice, and recommendations.

#### 5. Utilizing of Personal Information, etc.

- The PPC will actively disseminate information on the appropriate utilization of personal information, etc. with the aim of responding both needs to protect individuals' rights and interests, and to utilize personal information, etc. by businesses.

### ➤ Common Matters

#### 1. Collaboration with Relevant Ministries and Agencies in Specific Policy Areas

- The PPC will take necessary actions, including giving advice to relevant ministries and agencies, regarding the measures for the handling of personal information, etc. and Specific Personal Information implemented by each ministry and agency.

#### 2. Response to Inquiries and Complaints, etc. from the General Public

- The PPC will appropriately respond to inquiries and complaints regarding the handling of personal information, etc. and Specific Personal Information and promote the use of information obtained through the efforts.

### ➤ MY NUMBER Act

#### 1. Monitoring and Supervision Activities

- The PPC will exercise its monitoring and supervision authority, including the provision of necessary guidance, advice, and recommendations, based on investigations and analyses of cases, etc. identified through continuous monitoring and other means. For cases in which our authority has been exercised, the PPC will publish summaries, etc. of individual cases on a quarterly basis, and for cases where disclosure is deemed necessary; the PPC will publish more detailed information.
- The PPC will conduct regular inspections of administrative organs and incorporated administrative agencies or other prescribed corporations.
- The PPC will determine whether there have been any past incidents of information leakage or similar issues at local governments, etc., and conduct on-site inspections. Furthermore, the PPC will grasp status on the implementation of measures for managing the security of personal data through regular reports.

#### 2. Protection Assessment

- The PPC will review and approve Full Assessment Reports by administrative entities.

#### 3. Information linkages for Processes Specified by Prefectural/Municipal Ordinance using MY NUMBER

- The PPC will implement various measures to promote the use of information linkages for processes specified by Prefectural/Municipal Ordinance using MY NUMBER.

### ➤ International Cooperation

#### 1. Developing an International Environment for the Safe and Smooth Cross-Border Transfer of Personal Information

- The PPC will support businesses for their transfer of personal information across borders in a safe and smooth manner and promote developing an international environment that allows businesses to choose the cross-border transfer scheme suitable for their own needs and other factors from multiple options.

#### 2. Strengthening and Building International Cooperative Relationships with Like-Minded Countries and Regions

- The PPC will work towards strengthening and building cross-border enforcement cooperation and bilateral and multilateral cooperative relationships.

#### 3. Grasping International Trends and Disseminating Information

- The PPC will actively grasp the latest international trends and incorporate this into policy-making process. Furthermore the information collected will be effectively disseminated both domestically and internationally to ensure that businesses can utilize it.

#### 4. Strengthening the Foundation of the Institutional Arrangement of the International Affairs Teams and Training the Skills of Officials Engaged in the International Affairs

- To implement the aforementioned strategy, the PPC will strengthen the foundation of the international affairs teams and focus on the human resource development.

#### 1. Collaboration with Relevant Ministries and Agencies in Specific Policy Areas

- The PPC will take necessary actions, including giving advice to relevant ministries and agencies, regarding the measures for the handling of personal information, etc. and Specific Personal Information implemented by each ministry and agency.

#### 2. Response to Inquiries and Complaints, etc. from the General Public

- The PPC will appropriately respond to inquiries and complaints regarding the handling of personal information, etc. and Specific Personal Information and promote the use of information obtained through the efforts.

#### 3. Publicity and Awareness-Raising Activities

- The PPC will utilize various media to widely disseminate information to diverse stakeholders.
- The PPC will conduct briefing sessions and training for administrative entities.

#### 4. Development and Securing of Human Resources

- The PPC will foster diverse human resources by dispatching staff to specialized external training as well as supporting qualification acquisition and secondments to other ministries and agencies.

#### 5. Promotion of Digital Transformation (DX)

- The PPC will assign dedicated personnel to envision the ideal optimized state of framework, operations, and systems and to promote digital transformation (DX).