# Comments by the Government of Japan
# on The Continued Transition of the Technical Coordination and Management
# of the Internet's Domain Name and Addressing System :
# Midterm Review of the Joint Project Agreement

The Government of Japan appreciates this opportunity to provide comments on "The Continued Transition of the Technical Coordination and Management of the Internet's Domain Name and Addressing System: Midterm Review of the Joint Project Agreement" prepared by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), United States Department of Commerce.

Since the Internet has now grown into an essential global infrastructure, it is crucial that the technical coordination and management of the Internet's resources be performed securely and stably.

The Government of Japan believes that the governance mechanism of the Internet's resources should continue to be improved in an evolutionary manner based on the current ICANN-centered structure, as it is recognized in the TUNIS AGENDA FOR THE INFORMATION SOCIETY that the existing arrangements for Internet governance have worked effectively.

The Government of Japan recognizes ICANN's efforts to achieve the responsibilities included in the Joint Project Agreement (JPA), which encompasses elements of considerable significance for ensuring that the private sector takes the lead in the management of the Internet's resources with greater transparency and accountability.

In particular, the Government of Japan regards efforts such as the Fellowship Program, real-time

language interpretation at ICANN meetings, and educational services and information sharing throughout the world, as effective activities for fostering participation by global Internet stakeholders and for achieving internationalization.

However, it is assumed that the unallocated IPv4 address space will be depleted within a few years, which constitutes an issue that must be addressed immediately. To ensure that sustainable development of the Internet will not stagnate and that the entire world will continue to enjoy its benefits, ICANN should work positively to facilitate smooth deployment of IPv6 as well as, for example, recovering unused IPv4 addresses including those allocated historically so that IPv4 addresses are used more efficiently.

The Government of Japan believes that ICANN should not be satisfied with the accomplishment of the responsibilities stipulated in the JPA and that ICANN should continue to implement improvements so that it is able to address upcoming Internet expansion-related issues quickly and appropriately.

The Government of Japan is pleased to provide these comments on the NTIA's Notice of Inquiry.