

Making Aichi a place where human rights are respected

I The Basic Mindset

1. Basic Goals of the Action Plan

We aim to transform Aichi, our home, into a place without discrimination and prejudice, a place where human rights are respected. In addition to educating and enlightening people on human rights, we will take on the major human rights-related issues that confront us.

2. The Basic Mindset behind Human Rights Education and Enlightenment

(1) Preserving human dignity and creating a harmonious society

We are striving for a harmonious society that upholds the dignity of each of its members as independent individuals and that is capable of accepting diverse values.

(2) Promoting a multifaceted approach

Human rights issues take a multitude of forms, so human rights education and enlightenment must be targeted at all ages and occupations, and be carried out in a variety of locations utilizing diverse methods.

(3) Consideration for minorities and minority opinions

We need to have respect for minorities — small population groups present in society — and provide ample consideration for minority opinions.

3. Basic Approach toward Human Rights Education and Enlightenment

(1) Promoting voluntary citizen participation

We are planning to increase the opportunities for human rights-related education in all aspects of daily life, and to offer enriching experiences that are easy to participate in. Through active involvement in information-sharing on the Internet and through advertisements, we will encourage all our citizens to participate voluntarily.

(2) Promoting a government with a human rights perspective

We are working to heighten awareness toward human rights within government administrations, and to achieve a public sector that sees things from a perspective that respects human rights.

(3) Continuing Efforts and Addressing New Issues

Through flexibility and perseverance, we will address the various new human rights issues that are likely to arise as our society develops and evolves.

II Promoting Human Rights Education and Enlightenment in All Areas

1. Promoting Society-Wide Human Rights Education and Enlightenment

We strive to improve initiatives at home and in regional communities and to create a lifelong learning society where people can live a fulfilling life so that people gain and exercise proper knowledge and sense regarding human rights.

- (1) Promote human rights education at home
- (2) Promote human rights education and enlightenment in the community
- (3) Enrich educational opportunities
- (4) Raise up leaders

2. Promoting Human Rights Education at School

We will promote an educational system that informs children on the ethics of human rights across all subjects, moral education, and special programs, making sure to educate them on an individual basis and on a level equivalent to their developmental progress.

- (1) Promote human rights education as a part of all educational activities
- (2) Train to improve the skills of teachers and childcare workers
- (3) Disseminate the results from pilot research schools
- (4) Collaborate with families and communities

3. Promoting Human Rights Education and Enlightenment at the Workplace

We will encourage businesses to create a comfortable environment that is respectful of human rights by reminding them of their societal roles and responsibilities to exercise fair employment practices and generate a positive

atmosphere at the workplace.

- (1) Guarantee equal employment opportunities
- (2) Promote human rights education and enlightenment in the workplace
- (3) Collaborate with related organizations

4. Promoting Human Rights Education and Enlightenment in Specific Occupations

We are working, through training and information sharing, to reinforce human rights education and enlightenment for people in particular occupations that are closely connected to human rights.

- (1) Government workers
- (2) Teachers
- (3) Police officers
- (4) Firefighters
- (5) Medical and health care workers
- (6) Welfare system workers
- (7) Mass media

III Confronting Major Issues

1. Women

Our goal is to see society enjoy the political, economic, social, and cultural benefits of regarding both men and women as equal members of society and giving them opportunity to fulfill their desires in every area of society, and to create a society with gender equality that also shares responsibilities equally.

- Promote the understanding of gender equality
- Eradicate violence against women
- Respect for women's rights in the media
- Give women the universal right to make their own choices regarding sexuality and reproduction
- Achieve gender equality in the workplace
- Bolster societal participation

2. Children

We are working to promote comprehensive policies that will foster the healthy

growth and development of children in their homes, schools, and communities. Our goal is to build a society that will raise healthy children on whom future generations can depend.

- Educate people about the Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Promote policies to counter bullying
- Promote child abuse prevention
- Promote healthy upbringing of youth
- Promote policies for victimized children
- Enrich education

3. Senior Citizens

Our goal is for senior citizens to live independent, anxiety-free lives with their families in the communities they have known all their lives. As vital members of an aging society with knowledge and experience acquired over many years, they ought to be actively included in the running of society, and respect for them is one of the aims we hope to achieve.

- Promote more independence and active societal participation among the elderly
- Promote comprehensive health and welfare services
- Ensure opportunities for work and employment
- Promote the development of communities that are friendly to the elderly

4. The Disabled

We aim to achieve complete participation and equality for disabled individuals through the philosophies of rehabilitation — restoring the total humanity of the disabled at every stage in life through maximum efforts to recover functions and assimilate back into society — and normalization — creating a society in which disabled individuals can lead the same lifestyle and participate in the same activities as non-disabled individuals do. Ultimately we strive for a society where people respect others for who they are and are not discriminated against based on the presence of any disability of any kind.

- Help the disabled to be more independent and participate in the running of society
- Promote comprehensive health and welfare services
- Enrich education for disabled individuals and children

- Promote the development of communities that are friendly to the disabled
- Ensure vocational independence

5. Assimilation Issues

By treating assimilation issues as a major part of human rights issues and working to understand the particulars of the current situation, we intend to pursue education and enlightenment.

- Promote understanding of the issue
- Promote education on assimilation
- Promote independent, mutual support partnerships for carrying out education and enlightenment
- Raise up leaders who will enlighten others
- Improve settlement houses
- Put a stop to false assimilation activities

6. Foreigners

We strive for a community where all residents understand each other's cultural backgrounds and ways of thinking, and where all can live together and thrive in peace regardless of nationality or ethnicity. To that end, we will enrich international understanding education based on a multicultural perspective in school, and support multicultural initiatives in regional communities as well as international exchanges and international cooperation programs.

- Create multicultural consciousness and promote international understanding
- Promote foreign language studies and international studies in schools
- Improve systems to communicate with and provide consultation for foreigners and keep them better-informed
- Create an environment that is more amenable to resident foreigners
- Promote employment
- Promote improvement of community environments and urban infrastructure

7. People with Infectious Diseases

We will promote the dissemination of factual information regarding HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, and leprosy, as well as the elimination of discrimination of suffering and recovering patients and their families.

8. Crime Victims

While deepening residents' understanding of the issues involved to allow crime victims and their families to live a peaceful normal life in their regional communities, we will cooperate with pertinent organizations and promote support for them.

- Promote understanding of crime victims
- Implement continuous support policies

9. Human Rights Violations on the Internet

We will promote educational activities to encourage moral use of the Internet among residents in order to prevent human rights violations on the Internet.

- Promote educational/awareness programs
- Promote creation of a safe Internet environment

10. The Homeless

We will promote policies to help the homeless regain their independence, while also seeking the understanding of residents on the issues surrounding homelessness.

- Promote understanding of the situation of the homeless
- Promote support for re-establishment of independence

11. Issues Involving Various Human Rights

There are a number of different human rights issues that need to be dealt with: discrimination and prejudice of the marriage and employment of Ainu people; excluding ex-convicts from employment and other opportunities to assimilate back into society; homosexuals, GID patients, and other people referred to as a sexual minority experiencing restrictions in social life based on prescribed definitions of gender, and the discrimination and prejudice resulting from such definitions; discrimination and prejudice of children born out of wedlock; and the abduction and human trafficking of people by North Korean authorities.

IV Putting the Plan into Action

1. In order for our plan to proceed, we will join forces among the offices of the Aichi Prefectural Government and channel our efforts through the Aichi Human Rights Promotion Headquarters.
2. As time goes on, human rights issues diversify and new issues arise, so we must stay current with the times and pursue measures that confront important problems.
3. We will liaise with national and municipal governments, other public organizations, and nongovernment groups in order to build a society that respects human rights.
4. While working closely with the national government, we will encourage municipal governments with access to their residents on a personal level to engage in programs that follow the basic principles outlined in this plan.
5. This action plan will be revised when necessary in response to societal developments.