# Marubeni's Corporate Governance Code Initiatives (Revised on June 11, 2021)

Marubeni's Corporate Governance Code initiatives as they correspond to the relevant General Principles, Principles, and Supplementary Principles of Japan's Corporate Governance Code are as given below.

# **Section 1: Securing the Rights and Equal Treatment of Shareholders**

# **General Principle 1**

Companies should take appropriate measures to fully secure shareholder rights and develop an environment in which shareholders can exercise their rights appropriately and effectively.

In addition, companies should secure effective equal treatment of shareholders.

Given their particular sensitivities, adequate consideration should be given to the issues and concerns of minority shareholders and foreign shareholders for the effective exercise of shareholder rights and effective equal treatment of shareholders.

The Corporation promptly discloses information in order to secure the effective equal treatment of all shareholders and to contribute to the securing of shareholder rights and the appropriate exercise of rights, and endeavors to develop an environment for exercising their rights. For details, please refer to the respective principles and supplementary principles in Principles 1.1 through 1.7.

# **Principle 1.1 Securing the Rights of Shareholders**

Companies should take appropriate measures to fully secure shareholder rights, including voting rights at the general shareholder meeting.

The Corporation provides information necessary to fully secure shareholder rights including the smooth exercise of voting rights through prompt and timely disclosure of information using its website, etc. For details of the development of an environment for the exercise of voting rights, please refer to Supplementary Principles 1.2.4.

# **Supplementary Principles 1.1.1**

When the board recognizes that a considerable number of votes have been cast against a proposal by the company and the proposal was approved, it should analyze the reasons behind opposing votes and why many shareholders opposed, and should consider the need for shareholder dialogue and other measures.

The Corporation analyzes the reasons and considers the need for a response when a considerable number of votes have been cast against a proposal by the Corporation, with the aim of grasping the intentions of shareholders at General Meetings of Shareholders and reflecting such intentions in its management and in dialogue with shareholders.

# **Supplementary Principles 1.1.2**

When proposing to shareholders that certain powers of the general shareholder meeting be delegated to the board, companies should consider whether the board is adequately constituted to fulfill its corporate governance roles and responsibilities. If a company determines that the board is indeed adequately constituted, then it should recognize that such delegation may be desirable from the perspectives of agile decision-making and expertise in business judgment.

The Corporation delegates certain matters requiring resolution of General Meeting of Shareholders to the Board of Directors, including the acquisition of treasury shares and dividends of surplus, based on a resolution of the General Meeting of Shareholders and the provisions in the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation. The Corporation has passed a resolution at meetings of the Board of Directors on the Basic Internal Control Policy regarding a system for ensuring that the execution of duties by Directors conforms to laws and regulations and the Articles of Incorporation. The Corporation has appointed 5 Independent Outside Directors, and has developed a system in which corporate governance functions adequately. Dividends of surplus are determined by the Board of Directors in May, and the Corporation gives consideration to the agile payment of dividends prior to the General Meeting of Shareholders and to promptly providing dividends to shareholders.

# **Supplementary Principles 1.1.3**

Given the importance of shareholder rights, companies should ensure that the exercise of shareholder rights is not impeded. In particular, adequate consideration should be given to the special rights that are recognized for minority shareholders with respect to companies and their officers, including the right to seek an injunction against illegal activities or the right to file a shareholder lawsuit, since the exercise of these rights tend to be prone to issues and concerns.

The Corporation gives adequate consideration to rights granted to shareholders, including the preparation of manuals for administrative procedures so that the Corporation can respond appropriately and seamlessly to requests from shareholders to inspect or copy statutory held documents, and the Corporation has developed a system to ensure that shareholders are not impeded from exercising such rights.

#### Principle 1.2 Exercise of Shareholder Rights at General Shareholder Meetings

Companies should recognize that general shareholder meetings are an opportunity for constructive dialogue with shareholders, and should therefore take appropriate measures to ensure the exercise of shareholder rights at such meetings.

The Corporation recognizes that General Meetings of Shareholders are an opportunity for constructive dialogue with shareholders, and makes efforts to develop an appropriate environment for exercising such rights, giving adequate consideration to the shareholders' perspective. For details, please refer to Supplementary Principles 1.2.1 through 1.2.5.

#### **Supplementary Principles 1.2.1**

Companies should provide accurate information to shareholders as necessary in order to facilitate appropriate decision-making at general shareholder meetings.

The Corporation appropriately discloses information in reference materials for General Meetings of Shareholders, timely disclosures, and news releases on its website. Important matters are discussed in the Disclosure Committee before disclosure. For disclosures of English translations, please refer to Supplementary Principles 1.2.4.

# **Supplementary Principles 1.2.2**

While ensuring the accuracy of content, companies should strive to send convening notices for general shareholder meetings early enough to give shareholders sufficient time to consider the agenda. During the period between the board approval of convening the general shareholder meeting and sending the convening notice, information included in the convening notice should be disclosed by electronic means such as through TDnet\*1 or on the company's website.

The Corporation sends convocation notice approximately 1 week prior to the statutory deadlines (approximately 3 weeks prior to the date of a General Meeting of Shareholders) and discloses such notice on its website and on the Tokyo Stock Exchange website approximately ten days prior to sending the notice.

\*1 TDnet: The Tokyo Stock Exchange operates a real-time internet service (Timely Disclosure network) which distributes the information provided by listed companies on a timely basis in accordance with its listing rules.

# **Supplementary Principles 1.2.3**

The determination of the date of the general shareholder meeting and any associated dates should be made in consideration of facilitating sufficient constructive dialogue with shareholders and ensuring the accuracy of information necessary for such dialogue.

The Corporation convenes a General Meeting of Shareholders avoiding the peak day on which many companies hold shareholders meeting. Furthermore, the Corporation gives adequate consideration to the capacity of the venue so that the Corporation can accommodate a large number of shareholders.

# **Supplementary Principles 1.2.4**

Bearing in mind the number of institutional and foreign shareholders, companies should take steps for the creation of an infrastructure allowing electronic voting, including the use of the Electronic Voting Platform, and the provision of English translations of the convening notices of general shareholder meeting. In particular, companies listed on the Prime Market should make the Electronic Voting Platform available, at least to institutional investors.

The Corporation uses an electronic voting platform, translates convocation notice into English, and publishes such notice on its website. In addition, the Corporation has also developed an environment that allows voting rights to be exercised by a variety of means, including exercising voting rights by attending a General Meeting of Shareholders, in writing or via the Internet.

#### **Supplementary Principles 1.2.5**

In order to prepare for cases where institutional investors who hold shares in street name express an interest in advance of the general shareholder meeting in attending the general shareholder meeting or exercising voting rights, companies should work with the trust bank (*shintaku ginko*) and/or custodial institutions to consider such possibility.

Shareholders with voting rights recorded in the list of shareholders on the record date are shareholders entitled to exercise voting rights, and at present, the Corporation does not allow beneficial shareholders to attend General Meetings of Shareholders as there is no way to confirm their authenticity. However, the Corporation is in consultation with trust banks, etc. that it approves attendance and exercising of voting rights by beneficial shareholders, if the Corporation receives a request to attend a General Meeting of Shareholders in advance of a meeting, and if the Corporation is able to confirm that the party making the request is making it based on proper grounds as a beneficial shareholder.

#### **Principle 1.3 Basic Strategy for Capital Policy**

Because capital policy may have a significant effect on shareholder returns, companies should explain their basic strategy with respect to their capital policy.

The Corporation announces its quantitative targets including its Net D/E ratio and ROE and its dividend policy in Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024," following a resolution of the Board of Directors.

# **Principle 1.4 Cross-Shareholdings**

When companies hold shares of other listed companies as cross-shareholdings\*2, they should disclose their policy with respect to doing so, including their policies regarding the reduction of cross-shareholdings. In addition, the board should annually assess whether or not to hold each individual cross-shareholding, specifically examining whether the purpose is appropriate and whether the benefits and risks from each holding cover the company's cost of capital. The results of this assessment should be disclosed.

Companies should establish and disclose specific standards with respect to the voting rights as to their cross-shareholdings, and vote in accordance with the standards.

Policy on the Holding and Reduction of Cross-Shareholdings (Listed General Investment Shares\*3)

The Corporation conducts diversified business activities in a wide range of fields through its networks both in Japan and abroad and believes that cooperative partnerships with various companies are indispensable. The Corporation reviews the significance of the individual cross-shareholdings every year based on a comprehensive examination of quantitative aspects (ratio of investment gains and losses to the acquisition cost compared and evaluated against the Corporation's weighted average cost of capital) and qualitative aspects (maintenance and strengthening of relationships with investee companies by retaining cross-shareholdings), which is then investigated by the Board of Directors. If the significance of the cross-shareholding is not established as a result of the review, the Corporation, in principle, sells the shares, and reports on such sale to the Board of Directors.

In FY2022, the Corporation's shareholdings other than non-listed shares decreased by 9 issues, resulting in the number of issues held as of the end of March 2023 totaling 52 (123,338 million yen in sum total reported in the balance sheet). For details, please refer to the shareholding status information in the Corporation's annual securities report for FY2022 (page 109, Japanese language only).

Standard on Exercising Voting Rights for Cross-Shareholdings (Listed General Investment Shares)

The Corporation makes comprehensive judgements based on, for example, the investee company's midto long-term corporate value improvements when exercising voting rights of listed shares held as crossshareholdings.

- \*2 Cross-shareholding: There are cases where listed companies hold the shares of other listed companies for reasons other than pure investment purposes, for example, to strengthen business relationships. Cross-shareholdings here include not only mutual shareholdings but also unilateral ones.
- \*3 General investment shares refer to investment shares held for a purpose other than net investment.

#### **Supplementary Principle 1.4.1**

When cross-shareholders (i.e., shareholders who hold a company's shares for the purpose of cross-shareholding) indicate their intention to sell their shares, companies should not hinder the sale of the cross-held shares by, for instance, implying a possible reduction of business transactions.

The Corporation does not hinder the sale of shares by implying that it will reduce existing business transactions when a cross-shareholder indicates their intention to sell their shares.

#### **Supplementary Principle 1.4.2**

Companies should not engage in transactions with cross-shareholders which may harm the interests of the companies or the common interests of their shareholders by, for instance, continuing the transactions without carefully examining the underlying economic rationale.

The Corporation does not engage in transactions with cross-shareholders which may harm its interests or the common interests of the corporation's shareholders such as continuing transactions without carefully examining the underlying economic rationale.

#### **Principle 1.5 Anti-Takeover Measures**

Anti-takeover measures must not have any objective associated with entrenchment of the management or the board. With respect to the adoption or implementation of anti-takeover measures, the board and *kansayaku*<sup>3</sup> should carefully examine their necessity and rationale in light of their fiduciary responsibility to shareholders, ensure appropriate procedures, and provide sufficient explanation to shareholders.

The Corporation has no plans to introduce anti-takeover measures.

#### **Supplementary Principle 1.5.1**

In case of a tender offer, companies should clearly explain the position of the board, including any counteroffers, and should not take measures that would frustrate shareholder rights to sell their shares in response to the tender offer.

If a tender offer is made for the Corporation's shares, the Corporation will promptly disclose the position of the Board of Directors to shareholders. The Corporation does not take measures to unreasonably prevent shareholders from responding to the tender offer that contribute to maximizing the corporate value of the Corporation and common interests of shareholders.

#### Principle 1.6 Capital Policy that May Harm Shareholder Interests

With respect to a company's capital policy that results in the change of control or in significant dilution, including share offerings and management buyouts, the board and *kansayaku\*4* should, in order not to unfairly harm the existing shareholders' interests, carefully examine the necessity and rationale from the perspective of their fiduciary responsibility to shareholders, should ensure appropriate procedures, and provide sufficient explanation to shareholders.

If the Corporation engages in a capital policy that results in the change of control or significant dilution (including share offerings and management buyouts), the Corporation promptly discloses the necessity and rationale, provides sufficient explanations to shareholders as necessary, and ensures that appropriate procedures are taken.

\*4 *Kansayaku*: A Company with *Kansayaku* Board is a system unique to Japan in which certain governance functions are assumed by the board, *kansayaku* and the *kansayaku* board. Under this system, *kansayaku* audit the performance of duties by directors and the management and have investigation power by law.

# **Principle 1.7 Related Party Transactions**

When a company engages in transactions with its directors or major shareholders (i.e., related party transactions), in order to ensure that such transactions do not harm the interests of the company or the common interests of its shareholders and prevent any concerns with respect to such harm, the board should establish appropriate procedures beforehand in proportion to the importance and characteristics of the transaction. In addition to their use by the board in approving and monitoring such transactions, these procedures should be disclosed.

The Corporation receives prior approval from the Board of Directors for competing transactions by a Director, self-dealing transactions and conflict-of-interest transactions between the Corporation and a Director, and the Corporation informs the Board of Directors if the said transaction is implemented. The Corporation's policy is to implement transactions with a major shareholder (a shareholder who holds 10% or more shares in the Corporation) following a resolution of the Board of Directors, having excluded Directors with an interest in the transaction from the resolution and deliberations.

#### Section 2: Appropriate Cooperation with Stakeholders Other Than Shareholders

# **General Principle 2**

Companies should fully recognize that their sustainable growth and the creation of mid- to long-term corporate value are brought about as a result of the provision of resources and contributions made by a range of stakeholders, including employees, customers, business partners, creditors and local communities. As such, companies should endeavor to appropriately cooperate with these stakeholders.

The board and the management should exercise their leadership in establishing a corporate culture where the rights and positions of stakeholders are respected and sound business ethics are ensured.

The Corporation recognizes the importance of cooperating with all stakeholders, including shareholders, for the Corporation's sustainable growth and improvements in mid- to long-term corporate value. The Board of Directors and management are working to appropriately cooperate with all stakeholders based on the Corporation's Management Philosophy. The Corporation is also taking enterprising and proactive measures to address sustainability issues. For its Management Philosophy and initiatives in the area of sustainability, please refer to Supplementary Principle 2.3.1.

# Principle 2.1 Business Principles as the Foundation of Corporate Value Creation Over the Midto Long-Term

Guided by their position concerning social responsibility, companies should undertake their businesses in order to create value for all stakeholders while increasing corporate value over the mid-to long-term. To this end, companies should draft and maintain business principles that will become the basis for such activities.

The Corporation discloses its Management Philosophy in annual securities reports, corporate governance reports, integrated reports, and on its website, etc.

"In accordance with the spirit grounded in 'Fairness, Innovation, and Harmony,' the Marubeni Group is proudly committed to social and economic development and safeguarding the global environment by conducting fair and upright corporate activities."

# **Principle 2.2 Code of Conduct**

Companies should draft and implement a code of conduct for employees in order to express their values with respect to appropriate cooperation with and serving the interests of stakeholders and carrying out sound and ethical business activities. The board should be responsible for drafting and revising the code of conduct, and should ensure its compliance broadly across the organization, including the front line of domestic and global operations.

The Corporation informs all its stakeholders and discloses the Company Creed, Management Philosophy and the Marubeni Corporate Principles (which consist of 6 items set as basic rules of conduct for employees) in annual securities reports, corporate governance reports, integrated reports, and on the Corporation's website, etc.

# **Supplementary Principle 2.2.1**

The board should review regularly (or where appropriate) whether or not the code of conduct is being widely implemented. The review should focus on the substantive assessment of whether the company's corporate culture truly embraces the intent and spirit of the code of conduct, and not solely on the form of implementation and compliance.

The Corporation obtains an oath from all executives and employees each year regarding adherence to the Marubeni Corporate Principles and Compliance Manual. The status of compliance activities is reported in a timely manner by the Chief Compliance Officer to the Board of Directors and reviewed by the Board of Directors.

#### Principle 2.3 Sustainability Issues, Including Social and Environmental Matters

Companies should take appropriate measures to address sustainability issues, including social and environmental matters.

The Corporation takes appropriate measures to address sustainability issues, including social and environmental matters. For details of initiatives in the area of sustainability, please refer to Supplementary Principle 2.3.1.

# **Supplementary Principle 2.3.1**

The board should recognize that dealing with sustainability issues, such as taking care of climate change and other global environmental issues, respect of human rights, fair and appropriate treatment of the workforce including caring for their health and working environment, fair and reasonable transactions with suppliers, and crisis management for natural disasters, are important management issues that can lead to earning opportunities as well as risk mitigation, and should further consider addressing these matters positively and proactively in terms of increasing corporate value over the midto long-term.

The Marubeni Group operates in line with its Management Philosophy of embodying a corporate group proudly committed to social and economic development and safeguarding the global environment by conducting fair and upright corporate activities, in accordance with the spirit grounded in the Company Creed of "Fairness, Innovation and Harmony." The Marubeni Group's Management Philosophy is a clear presentation of its approach to sustainability and, for the Marubeni Group, sustainability means nothing less than putting the Management Philosophy into practice by preemptively addressing challenges to the environment and society and providing solutions.

The Corporation believes that climate change, deforestation, human rights issues, etc. loom as significant challenges threatening the sustainability of the Earth's environment and of societies and that an act of clarifying, and carrying out, mid- to long-term corporate policies for addressing those challenges will create not only economic value but also environmental and social value and will thereby lead directly to overall increases in the corporate value.

Based on such conviction, and with the aim of enhancing its efforts to achieve sustainable improvement of its corporate value, the Marubeni Group established a Sustainability Management Committee and identified 3 categories of Fundamental Materiality and 4 categories of Environmental and Social Materiality in April 2018.

A representative Director of the Corporation heads the Sustainability Management Committee and Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members are appointed as advisors, providing the system an external point of view. The Board of Directors, by receiving periodic reports on important issues pertaining to the sustainability initiatives discussed by the Committee, oversees sustainability-related issues evaluated from the viewpoints of the appropriateness of its ESG risk management and compatibility with society. In April 2019, as part of system strengthening, the Chair of the Sustainability Management Committee was made the Chief Sustainable Development Officer, and the Sustainability Management Department was newly established. Furthermore, Sustainability Leaders and Sustainability Managers overseeing sustainability management were appointed at each organization, and thus the entire group is working together to push forward initiatives regarding sustainability. For information on the creation of environmental and social values through business activities, please see the following URL on the Corporation's website.

#### https://www.marubeni.com/en/ir/reports/integrated\_report/

Aware of the importance of disclosing climate-related financial information, the Marubeni Group also expressed an endorsement of the TCFD Recommendations in February 2019 and is working to comprehend "opportunities" and "risks" precipitated by climate change and enhance its information disclosures. On March 9, 2021, the Corporation made public its action plan toward 2030 in the "Marubeni Long-Term Vision on Climate Change" with the aim of making the Group's GHG emissions net zero by 2050. For details, please refer to Supplementary Principle 3.1.3.

Furthermore, the Corporation announced "GC2024" in February 2022 and has set "Green Strategy" as one of its basic policies. Through sustainability-related initiatives such as decarbonization, transitioning to a circular economy, safeguarding water resources and bio-diversity, and respecting human rights, the Corporation aims to solve social issues and sustainably enhance its corporate value.

# Principle 2.4 Ensuring Diversity, Including Active Participation of Women

Companies should recognize that the existence of diverse perspectives and values reflecting a variety of experiences, skills and characteristics is a strength that supports their sustainable growth. As such, companies should promote diversity of personnel, including the active participation of women.

In the "Marubeni Group HR Strategy" of the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024," the Corporation aims to progress the "Marubeni HR Ecosystem" based on the concepts of "Human Capital with High Social Value," "Diversity & Inclusion," and a "Culture of Individual Development and Productivity" in order to realize the "Global crossvalue platform." With a focus on "the active contribution and development of diverse human capital," the Corporation is working on driving diversity management, including promoting the participation of women in the workplace. For details, please refer to Supplementary Principle 2.4.1.

#### **Supplementary Principle 2.4.1**

Companies should present their policies and voluntary and measurable goals for ensuring diversity in the promotion to core human resources, such as the promotion of women, foreign nationals and midcareer hires to middle managerial positions, as well as disclosing their status. In addition, in light of the importance of human resource strategies for increasing corporate value over the mid-to long-term, companies should present its policies for human resource development and internal environment development to ensure diversity, as well as the status of their implementation.

Our employees are the Marubeni Group's greatest capital and the source of value creation. In the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024", the Corporation will further develop the "Marubeni HR Ecosystem" set forth in the previous Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2021". The "Marubeni HR Ecosystem" is the fundamental human capital strategy to achieve the Global crossvalue platform, the vision for Marubeni of the future, and provides the direction for reforms. This strategy describes how the Marubeni Group will create an attractive ecosystem where employees with diverse backgrounds and high social value gather, thrive, connect, and combine various insights to take on the challenge of creating new value for society and our customers. By doing so, the Corporation will further promote the creation of a culture and work environment where diverse human capital play an active role. The Corporation promotes work-life management as the foundation for employees with diverse backgrounds to create results. Regardless of an employee's stage in life or individual circumstances, the Corporation is developing measures to ensure that employees can utilize necessary systems as needed in order to aim for sustainable career development and sustained performance.

For details regarding the "GC2024" Marubeni Group HR Strategy, please refer to the Corporation website and Integrated Report. The headcounts, ratios and scores shown in this item are those of the Corporation (non-consolidated basis).

Striving to Understand and Promote Diversity

From FY2021, "Marubeni Diversity Days" were held under the themes of the importance of diversity, unconscious bias, people with disabilities, multicultural co-creation, and LGBTQ, providing an opportunity for all employees to consider diversity from various perspectives. In addition to these events, the Corporation will continue its efforts to understand and promote diversity going forward.

# Promoting the Empowerment of Female Employees

In the second phase of its 5-year action plan (phase 2) enacted on April 1, 2021, the Corporation set 4 quantitative targets, including increasing the ratio of women in all career-track positions to at least 15% (13.2% as of March 31, 2023) and the ratio of women in all management positions to at least 10% (8.2% as of March 31, 2023), by the end of March 2026 as means to focus on further promoting the empowerment of female employees.

Action Plan for Empowering Female Employees (Japanese language only) https://positive-ryouritsu.mhlw.go.jp/positivedb/planfile/202103251414514613827 1.pdf

In FY2022, the Corporation established a new policy for promoting the empowerment of female employees: "Female Empowerment at Work 2.0." Aiming for a workplace where female employees are more deeply involved in management and decision making in business, the Corporation will further enhance growth opportunities for female employees and expand and strengthen their career paths towards decision-making positions. The Corporation is strengthening female recruitment for career-track positions, and in December 2020, the target for increasing the ratio of female employees in career-track positions among new graduates hired was set to around 40-50%. In FY2022, the ratio of female employees in career-track positions among new graduates hired was approximately 40%. Going forward, the Corporation intends to further raise this target and aim to increase the ratio of female employees in all recruitment channels to around 50%, a ratio that reflects societal demographic.

In addition, in conjunction with International Women's Day, the Corporation is making group-wide efforts to foster a corporate culture that supports the activities of women by holding Marubeni International Women's Day since FY2017 and deploying initiatives such as providing a message from the CEO at this event.

Female Empowerment at Work 2.0:

https://www.marubeni.com/en/news/2022/release/data/20220812E.pdf

# Promoting the Participation of Foreign National Employees

As of March 2023, the Corporation has approximately 60 non-Japanese employees, of whom 30 are in managerial positions. Going forward, the Corporation will ensure diversity in managerial and core positions in accordance with the Marubeni Group HR Strategy. Having a large number of group companies in various countries and regions, the Marubeni Group has an array of human capital, diverse in terms of nationality and other aspects of identity, who play an active role in their respective workplaces and contribute to the enhancement of the Group's corporate value.

#### Promoting the Participation of Mid-Career Hires

The Corporation conducts mid-career hiring throughout the year and employs human capital from diverse age tiers and backgrounds.

Mid-career recruits accounted for 21.7% of its total hires for FY2022, and as of October 2022, mid-career hires accounted for 16.5% of management positions. The Corporation's mid-career hiring is based on the needs of the workforce, and although the Corporation does not have a numerical target, it will continue to promote diversity in management and core human capital in accordance with the Marubeni Group HR Strategy.

Promoting the Advancement of Late-Career Employees and Employees Involved in Digital Transformation

In order to further promote the activities of its senior human capital, the Corporation introduced a continued employment scheme and established the Career Counselling Section within the Human Resources Department. Additionally, the Corporation enhanced measures to support senior careers in the personnel management reform for FY2021. For another initiative, the Corporation disclosed a series of programs designed to develop and enhance our digital human resources infrastructure in "GC2021 >> DX," its DX strategy, which was released in February 2021.

# Initiatives for Supporting Diverse Human Capital

The Corporation will focus on creating an environment where each employee can maximize their potential. In FY2021, the Corporation introduced a "mission-based HR system." This system encourages the execution of the organization's strategy and human capital growth by assigning merit-based missions and challenging larger missions. 80-90% of our employees in a survey conducted for FY2022 provided a positive response to this system.

Through multifaceted observations and self-assessment, the Corporation visualizes the characteristics of each employee's behaviors, strengths, challenges, etc. The scope of these assessments is being expanded, and in FY2022, approximately 64.9% of all employees (more than 82.5% of career-track employees) were assessed, and the Corporation will continue to further expand the target of these assessments. Visualized information is used by each organization for considering personnel transfers/assignments, mission assignments, and day-to-day team management and by individuals for self-reflection, future skill development, and career plans. Additionally, to promote and support autonomous work styles that enable diverse human capital to create new value, the Corporation is maximizing organizational and individual performance through a company-wide "work from anywhere" policy (a system where employees are allowed to work from home or satellite offices), which increases work location options and helps employees pursue the best mix between working from the office and other locations.

In order to position the maintenance and promotion of employee health as an important management issue and to support our employees, the source of the Marubeni Group's growth, the director in charge of the Human Resources Department, as the individual with the highest responsibility, promotes health management measures such as improving health literacy; countermeasures towards cancer, lifestyle-related diseases, and mental health; and strengthening efforts for maintaining and promoting women's health. Marubeni's efforts have been recognized by external organizations, and in 2015 and 2023, Marubeni was selected as a "Health & Productivity Stock," a recognition jointly selected by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Tokyo Stock Exchange. Furthermore, Marubeni has been recognized as a "Health and Productivity Management Organization (White 500)" by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Japan Health Council for six consecutive years since 2018.

Comparing Marubeni's employee engagement score with other companies, in FY2022, Marubeni's score was 59.2\* compared to an average of 50.0 at other companies. Marubeni was awarded third place in the large company category (2,000 or more employees) in the Best Motivation Company Awards 2023 by Link and Motivation Inc. (Marubeni was awarded fourth place in FY2021). The Corporation's efforts to support the activities of a diverse range of human capital links with improving employee satisfaction and motivation.

To deepen human capital management, it is necessary for management to become more involved in bringing out the strengths of employees and promoting human capital strategies linked to management strategies. The Talent Management Committee, a committee focused on human capital strategies and comprised of the CEO, CAO, CSO, and CHRO, meets 5 to 10 times a year to discuss various issues related to human capital management. This committee continually discusses optimal human capital allocations and structures and personnel systems and measures that include planning for human capital training for the entire Marubeni Group. Reforms are implemented promptly by this committee as well.

\*Engagement score (deviation) that indicates organizational status. A deviation of 50 is the average for companies using services provided by Link and Motivation Inc.

#### **Principle 2.5 Whistleblowing**

Companies should establish an appropriate framework for whistleblowing such that employees can report illegal or inappropriate behavior, disclosures, or any other serious concerns without fear of suffering from disadvantageous treatment. Also, the framework should allow for an objective assessment and appropriate response to the reported issues, and the board should be responsible for both establishing this framework, and ensuring and monitoring its enforcement.

The Corporation has established a whistleblowing system consisting of a "Marubeni Hotline" (as a compliance consultation point for the group) and a "Marubeni Anti-Corruption Hotline" (specialized consultation point for serious crimes such as bribery). The number of consultations is reported to the Board of Directors, and the system is set up so that it can also be monitored by the Board of Directors.

#### **Supplementary Principle 2.5.1**

As a part of establishing a framework for whistleblowing, companies should establish a point of contact that is independent of the management (for example, a panel consisting of outside directors\*1 and outside *kansayaku*\*2). In addition, rules should be established to secure the confidentiality of the information provider and prohibit any disadvantageous treatment.

In addition to the internal whistleblowing system, as part of the whistleblowing system, the Corporation has established an independent external legal counsel hotline at an attorney's office. Through internal regulations, the Corporation has established a framework to secure the confidentiality of the whistleblowers and prohibit any disadvantageous treatment. The Corporation operates the whistleblowing system in accordance with that framework.

- \*1 Outside director: A director who satisfies certain requirements such as not holding specific positions, including the position of executive director, in the company or its subsidiaries (Article 2, Paragraph 15 of the Companies Act). Furthermore, matters such as not holding a specific position in the parent company or other subsidiaries and not having specific kinship ties with controlling shareholders will be also required for outside directors after the 2014 amendments to the Companies Act.
- \*2 Outside *kansayaku*: A *kansayaku* who satisfies certain requirements such as not holding specific positions, including the position of director, in the company or its subsidiaries (Article 2, Paragraph 16 of the Companies Act). Furthermore, matters such as not holding a specific position in the parent company or other subsidiaries and not having specific kinship ties with controlling shareholders will also be required for outside *kansayaku* after the 2014 amendments to the Companies Act.

# **Principle 2.6 Roles of Corporate Pension Funds as Asset Owners**

Because the management of corporate pension funds impacts stable asset formation for employees and companies' own financial standing, companies should take and disclose measures to improve human resources and operational practices, such as the recruitment or assignment of qualified persons, in order to increase the investment management expertise of corporate pension funds (including stewardship activities such as monitoring the asset managers of corporate pension funds), thus making sure that corporate pension funds perform their roles as asset owners. Companies should ensure that conflicts of interest which could arise between pension fund beneficiaries and companies are appropriately managed.

The Corporation consigns the management of corporate pension funds to the Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund. The Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund organization consists of a Board of Trustees as the decision-making body, an Executive Board as the executive body, Auditors as the internal audit organization, and a Secretariat. A Pension Asset Management Committee has been established as an advisory body to the Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund. The fund is being operated in line with a Basic

Management Policy and a Policy Asset Composition Ratio that have been formulated for the management of the Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund. Additionally, from the standpoint of being an institutional investor as an "asset owner," the fund organization has announced agreeing to the Japan Stewardship Code and requires stewardship activities from its investment trustees.

Each organization is outlined below:

#### (Board of Trustees)

The Board of Trustees consists of an even number of trustees, half of whom are elected trustees selected by the Corporation and half of whom are mutually elected trustees from among the parties insured under the Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund. A resolution by the Board of Trustees is necessary to change the Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund bylaws or policies.

#### (Executive Board)

The Executive Board consists of an even number of executives, half of whom are elected executives and half of whom are mutually elected executives from among the elected trustees and the mutually elected trustees. Furthermore, the Executive Board mutually elects a chairperson from among the elected executives who represents the fund and governs the fund operations. The Executive Board executes its work based on resolutions by the Board of Trustees.

#### (Auditors)

There are 2 auditors, 1 elected auditor and 1 mutually elected auditor who are mutually elected from among the elected trustees and mutually elected trustees.

#### (Secretariat)

The Fund's secretariat consists of a managing director, an operating executive director, an administrative director, and general staff. The managing director is nominated by the chairperson of the Executive Board, and they carry out daily work together with the administrative director and general staff. Furthermore, the operating executive director is a member of staff who executes work relating to the management and operation of the pension asset who is nominated by the chairperson from among the executives with the consent of the Executive Board. At present, the managing director of the Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund also serves as the operating executive director.

# (Pension Asset Management Committee)

The Pension Asset Management Committee is comprised of the CFO; CAO; members selected from the Finance Department, Human Resources Department, and Corporate Accounting Department; and the managing director of the Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund. The criteria for selecting members include being responsible for pension work, and having a deep understanding of asset management, and related matters. The Pension Asset Management Committee prepares quarterly management reports for the Marubeni Corporate Pension Fund and discusses fund management policies.

# **Section 3: Ensuring Appropriate Information Disclosure and Transparency**

# **General Principle 3**

Companies should appropriately make information disclosure in compliance with the relevant laws and regulations, but should also strive to actively provide information beyond that required by law. This includes both financial information, such as financial standing and operating results, and non-financial information, such as business strategies and business issues, risk and governance.

The board should recognize that disclosed information will serve as the basis for constructive dialogue with shareholders, and therefore ensure that such information, particularly non-financial information, is accurate, clear and useful.

The Corporation is aware that information disclosure is an important management issue and that the proper disclosure of information is important for obtaining understanding from stakeholders such as shareholders. Given this awareness, the Corporation endeavors to actively disclose non-financial information, such as information relating to business strategies, business issues, risks, and governance. For details, please refer to Principle 3.1 and Supplementary Principles 3.1.1 through 3.1.3.

#### **Principle 3.1 Full Disclosure**

In addition to making information disclosure in compliance with relevant laws and regulations, companies should disclose and proactively provide the information listed below (along with the disclosures specified by the principles of the Code) in order to enhance transparency and fairness in decision-making and ensure effective corporate governance:

- i) Company objectives (e.g., business principles), business strategies and business plans;
- ii) Basic views and guidelines on corporate governance based on each of the principles of the Code;
- iii) Board policies and procedures in determining the remuneration of the senior management and directors:
- iv) Board policies and procedures in the appointment/dismissal of the senior management and the nomination of directors and *kansayaku* candidates; and
- v) Explanations with respect to the individual appointments/dismissals and nominations based on iv).

#### i) Management philosophy

In accordance with the spirit grounded in "Fairness, Innovation and Harmony," the Marubeni Group is proudly committed to social and economic development and safeguarding the global environment by conducting fair and upright corporate activities.

Management strategy and plan

Please refer to the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024" formulated based on the above spirit on the Corporation's website.

Mid-Term Management Strategy GC2024 https://www.marubeni.com/en/company/plan/pdf/gc2024\_en.pdf

#### ii) Basic views and guidelines on corporate governance

The Corporation believes in responding to the expectations of its stakeholders – which includes shareholders, customers, the local community, and employees by increasing its corporate value to become a proud corporate group committed to social and economic development and safeguarding the global environment in accordance with the spirit of the Company Creed of "Fairness, Innovation, and

Harmony." To realize this, the Corporation has been making efforts to enhance corporate governance as the platform for ensuring soundness, transparency, and efficiency of management. Specifically, in accordance with the "1. Basic Views" of "I. the Basic Views on Corporate Governance, Capital Structure, Corporate Profile and Other Basic Information" in the corporate governance report, the Corporation formulates criteria for judgment of independence of Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members and improves the management surveillance function by Independent Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members. The Corporation also believes that it is important to have constructive dialogues with shareholders and investors for medium- to long-term improvement of corporate value and endeavors to gain understanding for its management policy, etc. through dialogue, understand the position of shareholders and investors, and respond appropriately.

iii) Policies and procedure in determining the remuneration of the directors and senior management The Corporation has established a Governance and Remuneration Committee (comprised of 6 members: the President, 1 internal Director, and 4 Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members, and an Outside Director/Audit & Supervisory Board Member chairs the Committee), as an advisory body to the Board of Directors, the majority of whose members are Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members. The Committee deliberates on the policies in determining the remuneration of the Directors and Executive Officers and adequacy of remuneration levels and reports to the Board of Directors. Remuneration for Directors is determined by a resolution by the Board of Directors within the scope that has been authorized at the General Meeting of Shareholders based on such report. Remuneration for executive officers is determined by a resolution of the Board of Directors based on

iv) Appointment of Director and Audit & Supervisory Board Member candidates, policies and procedure for appointment and dismissal of the senior management

The Nomination Committee (comprised of 4 members: the President and 3 Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members, and an Outside Director/Audit & Supervisory Board Member chairs the Committee), an advisory body to the Board of Directors, the majority of whose members are Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members, deliberates on proposals for appointing Director and Audit & Supervisory Board Members candidates and reports to the Board of Directors. The Corporation has prior consent of the Audit & Supervisory Board regarding candidates for Members of Audit & Supervisory Board. The appointment criteria for the Corporation's Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members candidates and the senior management are as follows:

# (Appointment criteria for Director candidates)

such report.

For Directors, the Corporation appoints internal and external human resources having considerable insight and expertise fostered through ample experience in the Corporation's diversified business activities or in its respective industries to ensure swift and efficient decision-making and appropriate supervisory function in its management.

(Appointment criteria for Audit & Supervisory Board Member candidates)

For Audit & Supervisory Board Members, the Corporation appoints internal and external human resources having insight into the Corporation's management and considerable expertise and ample experience in financial affairs, accounting, law, and risk management fields to ensure appropriate supervisory function.

The proposal of candidates for Directors and Members of the Audit & Supervisory Board finalized through the resolution by the Board of Directors is submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders.

#### (Appointment criteria for Group CEOs, the CDIO, the CAO, the CFO, and the CSO)

The Corporation appoints Group CEOs, the CDIO, the CAO, the CFO, and the CSO from a pool of individuals both internally and externally. Those appointed are recognized as having outstanding expert knowledge, abundant business experience, and insight into the general management of trading companies and global business. These will also be individuals in roles responsible for making decisions on important matters for the Corporation, roles for supervising business execution, and other such leadership positions.

(Appointment criteria for Executive Officers)

The appointment of Executive Officers is decided through a resolution by the Board of Directors. The Corporation appoints Executive Officers from human resources responsible primarily for roles that maximize the mid- to long-term value of the Marubeni Group. The appointment of Executive Officers is decided through a resolution by the Board of Directors.

#### (Dismissal criteria)

Decisions on the dismissal of the President or other Executive Officers and the removal from office of the Representative Director shall be made by the Board of Directors in case any of them violates laws or regulations, or cases it is clearly acknowledged that their functions are not being manifested.

v) Reasons for the appointment of Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members candidates In addition to the reasons for the appointment of candidates for Outside Directors and Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members, the Corporation also discloses the reasons for appointing individual candidates for Internal Directors and Internal Audit & Supervisory Board Members in the reference materials for the General Meeting of Shareholders. Please refer to pages 10 to 24 of the Notice of the 99th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders available on the Corporation's website for more details. https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/8002/ir\_material10/207972/00.pdf

#### **Supplementary Principles 3.1.1**

These disclosures, including disclosures in compliance with relevant laws and regulations, should add value for investors, and the board should ensure that information is not boiler-plate or lacking in detail.

The Corporation is aware that information disclosure is an important management issue and that the proper disclosure of information is important for obtaining understanding from stakeholders such as shareholders. Based on this awareness, when disclosing information, the Corporation strives to ensure that it makes value-added disclosure by providing plain and detailed information and actively disclosing non-financial information.

#### **Supplementary Principles 3.1.2**

Bearing in mind the number of foreign shareholders, companies should, to the extent reasonable, take steps for providing English language disclosures. In particular, companies listed on the Prime Market should disclose and provide necessary information in their disclosure documents in English.

In view of the percentage made up of foreign shareholders, the Corporation has an English language website, and is working to disclose and provide information in English to overseas investors, including convocation notices of General Meetings of Shareholders, financial statement explanations, and integrated reports. For the percentage of foreign shareholders, please refer to "2. Capital Structure" in "I. the Basic Views on Corporate Governance, Capital Structure, Corporate Profile and Other Basic Information" in the Corporation's corporate governance report.

#### **Supplementary Principles 3.1.3**

Companies should appropriately disclose their initiatives on sustainability when disclosing their management strategies. They should also provide information on investments in human capital and intellectual properties in an understandable - 15 - and specific manner, while being conscious of the consistency with their own management strategies and issues. In particular, companies listed on the Prime Market should collect and analyze the necessary data on the impact of climate change-related risks and earning opportunities on their business activities and profits, and enhance the quality and quantity of disclosure based on the TCFD recommendations, which are an internationally well-established disclosure framework, or an equivalent framework.

The Corporation points to its "Green Strategy" in the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024" and also discloses and describes its efforts in the area of sustainability in its disclosure documents, such as securities reports and integrated reports, as well as sustainability briefings and other relevant occasions.

Aware of the importance of disclosing climate-related financial information, the Marubeni Group also expressed an endorsement of the TCFD Recommendations in February 2019 and is working to comprehend "opportunities" and "risks" precipitated by climate change and enhance its information disclosures. In July 2020, the Corporation released "Disclosure in line with the recommendations of the TCFD" and then, on March 9, 2021, made public its action plan toward 2030 in the "Marubeni Long-Term Vision on Climate Change" with the aim of making the Marubeni Group's GHG emissions net zero by 2050. The Corporation then proceeded to add further to the TCFD disclosure in September 2021 to show the robustness of its strategy related to climate change by thus disclosing its action policy and strategy founded on the results of its scenario-based analysis completed for its individual businesses. In addition to the above, in sections including that outlining our position and initiatives in the area of sustainability in the annual securities reports, the Corporation discloses particular sustainability information if that information is significant to the Corporation considering its business model and the business environment. Further, the Corporation has recognized climate change risks, environmental risks, as well as risks of natural disasters and other such occurrences, as risks to business operations, etc. and discloses action plans and policies designed to address them in the annual securities reports.

Disclosure in line with the Recommendations of the TCFD <a href="https://marubeni.disclosure.site/en/themes/15/?id=anc">https://marubeni.disclosure.site/en/themes/15/?id=anc</a> 02

Annual Securities Report for FY2022 (Japanese language only) https://www.marubeni.com/jp/ir/reports/security\_reports/

**Integrated Report** 

https://www.marubeni.com/en/ir/reports/integrated report/

Furthermore, the Corporation will promote the further development of the Marubeni HR Ecosystem, an element of the Group HR Strategy articulated in the Medium-Term Management Strategy "GC2024," which envisions a future where human capital, with high social value and valued by both society and clients, grows, thrives, and is organically connected to create new value.

The Corporation will develop and motivate our human capital by further promoting and improving the mission-oriented HR system, a system that was introduced in FY2020 to ensure the right person is in the right place based on their skills and capabilities. Also, the Corporation will promote the growth and success of our human capital by encouraging even more challenging missions.

Diversity and inclusion are essential elements to create new value. To ensure all of our diverse human capital can maximize their potential, we will optimize the workplace environment and strengthen their development. Empowering our female employees is one key component, but this will apply to all employees.

The Talent Management Committee, a committee that engages in HR strategy and whose main members include the CEO, CAO, and CSO, will lead changes by discussing the company's HR system and measures that include optimal human capital allocation, personnel structures, and human capital development programs.

In February 2021, the Corporation released its DX strategy entitled "GC 2021 >> DX," in which it designated DX in its corporate group as "making the value creation cycle on its 'Global crossvalue platform' more in-depth and speedier through utilization of digital technology and thereby achieving increases in its long-term corporate value toward 2030." The Corporation harnesses digital technology needed to build and enhance the all-company human capital infrastructure and IT infrastructure and to implement growth strategies of the respective business areas. For more details on DX strategy, please refer to the following information:

https://www.marubeni.com/en/ir/reports/dx/pdf/dx2021\_en.pdf

# **Principle 3.2 External Auditors**

External auditors and companies should recognize the responsibility that external auditors owe toward shareholders and investors, and take appropriate steps to secure the proper execution of audits.

The Corporation collaborates with the Audit & Supervisory Board and related departments such as the Corporate Accounting Department, and endeavors to ensure a proper audit schedule and audit structure and to ensure proper auditing by accounting auditors.

#### **Supplementary Principles 3.2.1**

The kansayaku board should, at minimum, ensure the following:

- i) Establish standards for the appropriate selection of external auditor candidates and proper evaluation of external auditors; and
- ii) Verify whether external auditors possess necessary independence and expertise to fulfill their responsibilities.
- i) The Audit & Supervisory Board establishes standards to evaluate the non-reappointment of the accounting auditor and procedures for appointment, etc., and when reappointing the accounting auditor each year, the Audit & Supervisory Board evaluates the work of the accounting auditor based on such standards, makes a decision on reappointment, and reports to the Board of Directors.
- ii) The Audit & Supervisory Board checks the accounting auditor's independence and expertise by receiving explanations concerning the accounting auditor's quality control system (including checking the independence of the accounting auditor) and the annual audit plan and service structure at regular monthly meetings with the accounting auditor.

# **Supplementary Principles 3.2.2**

The board and the *kansayaku* board should, at minimum, ensure the following:

- i) Give adequate time to ensure high quality audits;
- ii) Ensure that external auditors have access, such as via interviews, to the senior management including the CEO and the CFO;
- iii) Ensure adequate coordination between external auditors and each of the *kansayaku* (including attendance at the *kansayaku* board meetings), the internal audit department and outside directors; and
- iv) Ensure that the company is constituted in the way that it can adequately respond to any misconduct, inadequacies or concerns identified by the external auditors.
- i) Audit schedules are formulated following prior consultation with the Corporate Accounting Department and the accounting auditor, and adequate time is set aside to conduct audits. The Audit & Supervisory Board checks audits plans (details and timings) and checks that sufficient time has been secured for auditing.
- ii) The accounting auditor interviews the President and CFO.
- iii) The accounting auditor and Audit & Supervisory Board Members shall ensure collaboration by having a monthly meeting as an alternative to the accounting auditor's attending meetings of the Audit & Supervisory Board. The Internal Audit Department works with the accounting auditor to address internal control reporting requirements associated with financial reports and provides necessary information including internal audit reports. Reports on accounting audits conducted by the accounting auditor are

made to the Board of Directors, including outside directors, and information is shared with outside directors.

iv) When issues are pointed out by the accounting auditor, the executing side responds individually, and reports are made on the office organization line.

# Section 4: Responsibilities of the Board

#### **General Principle 4**

Given its fiduciary responsibility and accountability to shareholders, in order to promote sustainable corporate growth and the increase of corporate value over the mid- to long-term and enhance earnings power and capital efficiency, the board should appropriately fulfill its roles and responsibilities, including:

- (1) Setting the broad direction of corporate strategy;
- (2) Establishing an environment where appropriate risk-taking by the senior management is supported; and
- (3) Carrying out effective oversight of directors and the management (including *shikkoyaku\**<u>1</u>2 and so-called *shikkoyakuin\**2) from an independent and objective standpoint.

Such roles and responsibilities should be equally and appropriately fulfilled regardless of the form of corporate organization – i.e., Company with *Kansayaku* Board (where a part of these roles and responsibilities are performed by *kansayaku* and the *kansayaku* board), Company with Three Committees (Nomination, Audit and Remuneration) or Company with Supervisory Committee.

The Corporation sets the broad direction of corporate strategy at meetings of the Board of Directors, including formulating medium-term management strategies (medium-term management plans). The Corporation endeavors to establish management and executive structures in order to secure prompt and efficient decision-making, and appropriate supervisory functions. For details of management and executive structures, please refer to the respective principles and supplementary principles under Principles 4.1 through 4.14.

ARTERIA Networks Corporation ("ARTERIA"), a listed corporation, is a subsidiary of the Corporation. As consideration is given to ARTERIA's independence as a listed subsidiary, avoiding a conflict of interest with ARTERIA's general stockholders, the Corporation gives appropriate guidance and advice as the parent company, propagates the appropriate level of governance as the Marubeni Group, and plans for the improvement and optimization of corporate value for the entire Marubeni Group.

Furthermore, in order to ensure effective governance policy building and execution, a written agreement was concluded between the Corporation and ARTERIA. By virtue of this agreement, important information for internal controls is reported by ARTERIA to the Corporation, and ARTERIA receives opinions on these items from the Corporation in advance of decision making. Additionally, the Corporation provides ARTERIA with support and guidance necessary for ARTERIA's internal controls system maintenance. It should be noted that advice and opinions received from the Corporation as per the aforementioned agreement is not meant to be restrictive, but to be used as reference in ARTERIA's own final decision-making process, thereby guaranteeing autonomy. ARTERIA maintains a governance policy that protects the interests of minority shareholders from unfair treatment through such measures as appointing independent outside directors and voluntarily establishing a Nomination and Remuneration Committee of which the majority of members are independent outside directors.

In order to realize further enhancement of the corporate value of ARTERIA, the Corporation and SECOM CO., LTD. plan to jointly acquire the shares of common stock of ARTERIA by tender offer and delist the same. For more detail, please refer to "Notice Concerning Planned Commencement of Tender Offer for Shares of ARTERIA Networks Corporation" posted on our website on May 11, 2023.

- \*1 *Shikkoyaku*: According to the Companies Act, Companies with 3 Committees (Nomination, Audit and Remuneration) must appoint 1 or more *shikkoyaku* from directors or non-directors by a resolution of the board and delegate business administration to *shikkoyaku*. Also, authority to make certain kinds of business decisions may be delegated to *shikkoyaku*.
  - \*2 Shikkoyakuin: There are cases where a Company with Kansayaku Board or a Company with

Supervisory Committee creates positions with the title of "shikkoyakuin" for persons who are delegated by the board a certain range of discretion regarding business administration. Unlike shikkoyaku in Companies with 3 Committees (Nomination, Audit and Remuneration), shikkoyakuin is not a statutory position.

#### Principle 4.1 Roles and Responsibilities of the Board (1)

The board should view the establishment of corporate goals (business principles, etc.) and the setting of strategic direction as one major aspect of its roles and responsibilities. It should engage in constructive discussion with respect to specific business strategies and business plans, and ensure that major operational decisions are based on the company's strategic direction.

The Corporation's medium-term management strategies (medium-term management plans) are formulated based on its Management Philosophy and the details in the plans are discussed thoroughly by the Board of Directors. Subsequent policies, including investment, management resource allocation, and human resource policies, are decided taking the medium-term management strategy (medium-term management plan) as a guideline.

#### **Supplementary Principles 4.1.1**

The board should clearly specify its own decisions as well as both the scope and content of the matters delegated to the management, and disclose a brief summary thereof.

In the Corporation's Board of Directors Rules, it is stipulated that matters set forth in laws and ordinances and the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation and other important matters related to management shall be discussed at meetings of the Board of Directors, and agendas in this regard are clarified in the List of Matters to be Submitted to the Board of Directors. In particular, standards for monetary amounts are set forth with regard to starting, joining, abolishing, and withdrawing from business, acquiring and disposing of fixed assets, and loaning and guaranteeing, etc., and cases in which such standards for monetary amounts will be exceeded are deliberated and decided by the Board of Directors. Based on the above-mentioned list, decision-making and execution of matters other than those that should be decided by the Board of Directors, are delegated to the Representative Director and Executive Officer. Decision-making and execution regarding matters delegated to the Representative Director and Executive Officer, are reported by the supervising Directors at meetings of the Board of Directors. Through these reports, etc. the Board of Directors monitors decision-making and business execution by the Representative Director and Executive Officer.

# **Supplementary Principles 4.1.2**

Recognizing that a mid-term business plan (*chuuki keiei keikaku*) is a commitment to shareholders, the board and the senior management should do their best to achieve the plan. Should the company fail to deliver on its mid-term business plan, the reasons underlying the failure of achievement as well as the company's actions should be fully analyzed, an appropriate explanation should be given to shareholders, and analytic findings should be reflected in a plan for the ensuing years.

The Corporation announces its medium-term management strategy (medium-term management plan), checks the status of progress in a sequential manner, and then discloses this.

When the term of the medium-term management strategy (medium-term management plan) has finished, it is reviewed and its content is thoroughly analyzed. The findings are reflected in the next term's business strategy, and then the next term's business strategy is announced.

# **Supplementary Principles 4.1.3**

Based on the company objectives (business principles, etc.) and specific business strategies, the board should proactively engage in the establishment and implementation of a succession plan for the CEO and other top executives and appropriately oversee the systematic development of succession candidates, deploying sufficient time andresources.

The Nomination Committee, which is an advisory body of the Board of Directors, receives sufficient information from the President regarding successor plans and the development of successor candidates, engages in opinion exchanges, and then examines successor plans based on evaluations of specific candidates.

In the case of selecting the next term's President, the Nomination Committee deliberates on candidate selection proposals prepared by the President and reports the outcomes of its deliberations to the Board of Directors, and the final decision is then made by the Board of Directors.

#### Principle 4.2 Roles and Responsibilities of the Board (2)

The board should view the establishment of an environment that supports appropriate risk-taking by the senior management as a major aspect of its roles and responsibilities. It should welcome proposals from the management based on healthy entrepreneurship, fully examine such proposals from an independent and objective standpoint with the aim of securing accountability, and support timely and decisive decision-making by the senior management when approved plans are implemented.

Also, the remuneration of the management should include incentives such that it reflects mid-to long-term business results and potential risks, as well as promotes healthy entrepreneurship.

With the aim of clarifying the separation between execution and monitoring, the Corporation has introduced an Executive Officer System, and it endeavors to develop environments that support appropriate risk taking. Individual important matters are discussed at meetings of the Board of Directors in accordance with the Matters to be Submitted to the Board of Directors, and the discussions take place from a multilateral perspective in line with the roles of each Directors. If there are collateral conditions, etc. regarding approval by the Board of Directors, instructions are promptly given and follow-ups are carried out.

The Corporation grants shares with restriction on transfer ("Restricted Stock") and TSR-linked performance share units with shares transfer restrictions ("TSR-linked Performance Share Units") to Directors (excluding Outside Directors) and Executive Officers in order to share the benefits and risks of stock price fluctuations with shareholders and further enhance their motivation to contribute to increasing the stock price and boosting corporate value.

# **Supplementary Principle 4.2.1**

The board should design management remuneration systems such that they operate as a healthy incentive to generate sustainable growth, and determine actual remuneration amounts appropriately through objective and transparent procedures. The proportion of management remuneration linked to mid- to long-term results and the balance of cash and stock should be set appropriately.

The maximum total remuneration for all Directors shall be determined by resolution at a General Meeting of Shareholders. The Governance and Remuneration Committee, chaired by an Outside Director and the majority of its members consisting of independent Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members deliberates on the policies for compensation decisions and the appropriateness of the compensation levels, and provides reports to the Board of Directors. The remuneration amount for each

Director is determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. The remuneration of Directors other than Outside Directors consists of (i) monthly remuneration (basic remuneration, bonuses), which is a fixed monetary compensation, (ii) short-term incentive remuneration (performance-based bonuses, individuals' evaluation-based compensation), which is a variable monetary compensation, and (iii) medium and long-term incentive remuneration (Restricted Stock, TSR-linked Performance Share Units), which is a variable stock-based compensation.

Remuneration and other payments for the Chairman of the Board consist of the monthly remuneration as the basic compensation and the medium- and long-term incentive remuneration, considering that the Chairman of the Board is in the position to substantially contribute to the enhancement of corporate value over the medium to long term through leveraging the business expertise gained through managing the Corporation on supervision.

Remuneration for Outside Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members, all of whom are independent from business operation, consists entirely of the monthly remuneration as the basic compensation (including remuneration for responsibilities as the chairperson, member, etc., of each respective committee), and does not include performance-linked remuneration.

To ensure that remuneration levels of Directors are competitive so as to secure and maintain excellent human capital, the remuneration levels are examined by comparing them with objective research data on remuneration provided by outside specialized organizations and other sources to determine the appropriate remuneration levels.

As for the composition ratio of remuneration and other payments, it shall focus on the medium- and long-term improvement of corporate value by increasing the composition ratio of the medium- and long-term incentive remuneration. For the President & CEO, its composition ratio of monthly remuneration/the short-term incentive remuneration/the medium- and long-term incentive remuneration shall be set as 1:1:1 when consolidated net profit is 400 billion yen and core operating cash flow is 500 billion yen. For other internal Directors, based on the remuneration composition ratio of the President and CEO, the Corporation shall set up the ratio considering the role and responsibilities of each position

# **Supplementary Principle 4.2.2**

The board should develop a basic policy for the company's sustainability - 20 - initiatives from the perspective of increasing corporate value over the mid- to long- term.

In addition, in light of the importance of investments in human capital and intellectual properties, the board should effectively supervise the allocation of management resources, including such investments, and the implementation of business portfolio strategies to ensure that they contribute to the sustainable growth of the company.

The Corporation has its approach to sustainability and associated action policies, etc. formulated by the Board of Directors, and the status of its sustainability actions is discussed by the Board of Directors on a regular basis. Long-term corporate value improvement through "Green Strategy" is also an item covered in the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024."

Corporate resources allocation is discussed and overseen by the Board of Directors on relevant occasions, including medium-term management strategy development and revision, quarterly financial reporting and Directors' business execution report presentations.

For business portfolio, please refer to Supplementary Principle 5.2.1.

# Principle 4.3 Roles and Responsibilities of the Board (3)

The board should view the effective oversight of the management and directors from an independent and objective standpoint as a major aspect of its roles and responsibilities. It should appropriately evaluate company performance and reflect the evaluation in its assessment of the senior management.

In addition, the board should engage in oversight activities in order to ensure timely and accurate information disclosure, and should establish appropriate internal control and risk management systems.

Also, the board should appropriately deal with any conflict of interests that may arise between the company and its related parties, including the management and controlling shareholders.

The Corporation has set up the Nomination Committee, an advisory body of the Board of Directors, the majority of whose members are Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members, and whose chairperson is an Outside Director. The Committee deliberates on the appropriateness of executive appointment procedures, etc., and reports to the Board of Directors. The appointment and dismissal of Executive Officers is as stated in Principle 3.1(iv) above.

The appropriate development of internal control and risk management systems is as stated in Supplementary Principle 4.3.4 below.

Management systems regarding conflicts of interest that arise between affiliated parties such as management teams and controlling shareholders, and the Corporation are as stated in Principle 1.7 above.

#### **Supplementary Principle 4.3.1**

The board should ensure that the appointment and dismissal of the senior management are based on highly transparent and fair procedures via an appropriate evaluation of the company's business results.

With regard to the appointment and dismissal of Directors and Executive Officers, monitoring functions are secured by the Board of Directors based on a system that is as stated in Principle 3.1(iv) above.

#### **Supplementary Principle 4.3.2**

Because the appointment/dismissal of the CEO is the most important strategic decision for a company, the board should appoint a qualified CEO through objective, timely, and transparent procedures, deploying sufficient time and resources.

This is as stated in Supplementary Principle 4.1.3 above.

#### **Supplementary Principle 4.3.3**

The board should establish objective, timely, and transparent procedures such that a CEO is dismissed when it is determined, via an appropriate evaluation of the company's business results, that the CEO is not adequately fulfilling the CEO's responsibilities.

This is as stated in Principle 3.1(iv) above.

#### Supplementary Principle 4.3.4

The establishment of effective internal control and proactive enterprise risk management systems has the potential to support sound risk-taking. The board should appropriately establish such systems on an enterprise basis and oversee the operational status, besides utilizing the internal audit department.

With regard to compliance, the Compliance Committee has been set up to develop systems, and the status of its activities is reported to the Board of Directors in business execution reports. Marubeni Group companies have developed a compliance structure suited to their respective business characteristics, as is the case with its overseas subsidiaries, which have developed a compliance structure appropriate to laws and regulations, business customs, etc. of the respective countries. The Corporation has regular audits and monitoring practices in place, including those for bribery prevention management and security export control purposes, to check whether there are any inadequacies in the compliance structures in the Marubeni Group.

For internal control, the Internal Control Committee has been set up to develop systems, and it confirms that internal controls are effective by submitting an internal control report to the Board of Directors in accordance with the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act. The Board of Directors evaluates the operational status of internal control systems and reviews the Basic Internal Control Policy at a meeting of the Board of Directors once a year.

On the subject of risk management structures, the Board of Directors discusses risk scenarios and steps to address them, while quantifiable risks are also subject to integrated risk management procedures and qualitative risks are managed through a stricter compliance structure, etc.

On the basis of audit results, the Internal Audit Department submits an audit report to the President and has a copy circulated among personnel concerned, including the organization being audited, the Chairman of the Board, Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members, and also gives reports to the Board of Directors, the Corporate Management Committee and the Executive Committee in a timely fashion. Audit reports contain, among other things, a statement of issues to be improved by the organization being audited, which the Internal Audit Department, as well as the section responsible for individual internal control actions, will subsequently follow up on to monitor the state of improvement and of other steps, etc. taken. In addition to internal audits, the Internal Audit Department conducts an assessment of the internal control effectiveness in connection with financial reporting.

#### Principle 4.4 Roles and Responsibilities of Kansayaku and the Kansayaku Board

*Kansayaku* and the *kansayaku* board should bear in mind their fiduciary responsibilities to shareholders and make decisions from an independent and objective standpoint when executing their roles and responsibilities including the audit of the performance of directors' duties, appointment and dismissal of *kansayaku* and external auditors and the determination of auditor remuneration.

Although so-called "defensive functions," such as business and accounting audits, are part of the roles and responsibilities expected of *kansayaku* and the *kansayaku* board, in order to fully perform their duties, it would not be appropriate for *kansayaku* and the *kansayaku* board to interpret the scope of their function too narrowly, and they should positively and proactively exercise their rights and express their views at board meetings and to the management.

The Audit & Supervisory Board is made up of 5 Audit & Supervisory Board Members (3 of which are Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members). Based on audit policies and audit plans formulated by the Audit & Supervisory Board, the Audit & Supervisory Board Members attend meetings of the Board of Directors and other important meetings, and audit the execution of duties by Directors through operational and financial status surveys.

#### Supplementary Principle 4.4.1

Given that not less than half of the *kansayaku* board must be composed of outside *kansayaku* and that at least one full-time *kansayaku* must be appointed in accordance with the Companies Act, the *kansayaku* board should, from the perspective of fully executing its roles and responsibilities, increase its effectiveness through an organizational combination of the independence of the former and the information gathering power of the latter.

In addition, *kansayaku* or the *kansayaku* board should secure cooperation with outside directors so that such directors can strengthen their capacity to collect information without having their independence jeopardized.

3 out of the Corporation's 5 Audit & Supervisory Board Members are Independent Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members. The Audit & Supervisory Board judges audit on the execution of duties by Directors, the dismissal and appointment of External Accounting Auditor, and Audit & Supervisory Board Member's remuneration from an independent and objective standpoint.

In order to ensure collaboration with Outside Directors, Outside Directors are invited to voluntarily attend business execution status interviews that Audit & Supervisory Board Members conduct with Directors, Group CEOs, etc.

#### Principle 4.5 Fiduciary Responsibilities of Directors and Kansayaku

With due attention to their fiduciary responsibilities to shareholders, the directors, *kansayaku* and the management of companies should secure the appropriate cooperation with stakeholders and act in the interest of the company and the common interests of its shareholders.

The President and CEO, CFO, General Manager of the Finance Department, and others regularly attend meetings with domestic and overseas investors, and the CFO, who is a Representative Director, serves as the Director in charge of IR and accordingly reports on the particulars of such meetings to Directors, Audit & Supervisory Board Members, etc. Thus, a system is in place for reflecting the opinions of shareholders and other stakeholders in management.

#### Principle 4.6 Business Execution and Oversight of the Management

In order to ensure effective, independent and objective oversight of the management by the board, companies should consider utilizing directors who are neither involved in business execution nor have close ties with the management.

The Corporation secures highly effective systems for monitoring management by appointing 6 Independent Outside Directors and having them state opinions from an independent and objective standpoint at meetings of the Board of Directors, etc. Furthermore, the Chairman of the Board, who chairs the Board of Directors is a non-executive Director.

#### **Principle 4.7 Roles and Responsibilities of Independent Directors**

Companies should make effective use of independent directors\*3, taking into consideration the expectations listed below with respect to their roles and responsibilities:

- Provision of advice on business policies and business improvement based on their knowledge and experience with the aim to promote sustainable corporate growth and increase corporate value over the mid- to long-term;
- ii) Monitoring of the management through important decision-making at the board including the appointment and dismissal of the senior management;
- iii) Monitoring of conflicts of interest between the company and the management or controlling shareholders; and
- iv) Appropriately representing the views of minority shareholders and other stakeholders in the boardroom from a standpoint independent of the management and controlling shareholders.

The Corporation sets forth independence judgment criteria (see Principle 4.9 below) referring to the guidelines of proxy advisory firms, and appoints Independent Directors who meet such criteria, and can carry out supervision of the conflict of interest, management supervision, and fiduciary responsibilities.

Outside Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members, including such Independent Outside Directors, give useful advice aimed at boosting mid to long-term corporate value based on their own expert knowledge and abundant experience; make up the majority of the members of the Nomination Committee, which is an advisory body of the Board of Directors; deliberate on appropriateness of appointment procedures of the Executive Officers, etc.; and appropriately demonstrate supervision functions.

\*3 Independent director: The listing rules of securities exchanges provide that the outside directors, as defined in the Companies Act, are independent directors where they satisfy independence criteria of securities exchanges and the company determines that they do not have the possibility of conflicts of interest with its shareholders.

# **Principle 4.8 Effective Use of Independent Directors**

Independent directors should fulfill their roles and responsibilities with the aim of contributing to sustainable growth of companies and increasing corporate value over the mid- to long-term. Companies listed on the Prime Market should therefore appoint at least one-third of their directors as independent directors (two directors if listed on other markets) that sufficiently have such qualities.

Irrespective of the above, if a company listed on the Prime Market believes it needs to appoint the majority of directors (at least one-third of directors if listed on other markets) as independent directors based on a broad consideration of factors such as the industry, company size, business characteristics, organizational structure and circumstances surrounding the company, it should appoint a sufficient number of independent directors.

Out of the Corporation's 10 Directors, 6 are Outside Directors, and all of them meet the independence judgment criteria set forth by the Corporation and the independence criteria set forth by the Tokyo Stock Exchange, Inc.

Both internally and externally, the Corporation appoints personnel with broad experience either in its multifaceted business activities, or in their respective fields of specialty, who also have advanced insight and expertise cultivated through such experience, with appointments by the Corporation encompassing a broad consideration of factors such as the industry, company size, business characteristics, organizational structure and circumstances surrounding the company, and with the aim of ensuring quick and efficient decision-making and proper oversight functions. In the Corporation's opinion, the number of Independent Outside Directors as it currently stands is appropriate, and it maintains a commitment to appointing an

appropriate number of candidates for Independent Outside Directors.

# **Supplementary Principles 4.8.1**

In order to actively contribute to discussions at the board, independent directors should endeavor to exchange information and develop a shared awareness among themselves from an independent and objective standpoint. Regular meetings consisting solely of independent directors (executive sessions) would be one way of achieving this.

Meetings in which Independent Outside Directors, Audit & Supervisory Board Members, and the President participate (in which Independent Outside Directors and/or Audit & Supervisory Board Members are not the only members) are held on a regular basis, with the aims of exchanging information and sharing awareness. (such meetings were held 4 times in FY2022.)

# **Supplementary Principles 4.8.2**

Independent directors should endeavor to establish a framework for communicating with the management and for cooperating with *kansayaku* or the *kansayaku* board by, for example, appointing the lead independent director from among themselves.

With the aim of further strengthening collaboration between Internal Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members and Outside Directors, a Chief Independent Outside Director is appointed.

# **Supplementary Principles 4.8.3**

Companies that have a controlling shareholder should either appoint at least one-third of their directors (the majority of directors if listed on the Prime Market) as independent directors who are independent of the controlling shareholder or establish a special committee composed of independent persons including independent director(s) to deliberate and review material transactions or actions that conflict with the interests of the controlling shareholder and minority shareholders.

As of the date of submission of the corporate governance report, the Corporation has no controlling shareholder.

#### Principle 4.9 Independence Standards and Qualification for Independent Directors

Boards should establish and disclose independence standards aimed at securing effective independence of independent directors, taking into consideration the independence criteria set by securities exchanges. The board should endeavor to select independent director candidates who are expected to contribute to frank, active and constructive discussions at board meetings.

The Corporation appoints Outside Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members based on the following "Standards and policies for the independence of Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members of the Corporation" so that Outside Directors can appropriately exercise their expected roles and functions.

Standards and policies for the independence of Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members of the Corporation

The Corporation shall determine that a person who is an Outside Director is not independent if he/she currently corresponds to, or in the past 3 business years has corresponded to, any of the following items 1 to 7, or fails to meet the standards for independence set forth by the Tokyo Stock Exchange, Inc.

- 1. A major shareholder of the Corporation (who directly or indirectly holds 10% or more of the voting rights in the Corporation) or an executing person thereof\*4
- 2. An executing person of a lender, from which the borrowed amount exceeds 2% of the Corporation's consolidated total assets
- 3. An executing person of a business partner with which the transaction amount exceeds 2% of the Corporation's consolidated revenue
- 4. A representative partner or a partner of the auditing firm that is the accounting auditor of the Corporation
- 5. A person who receives money from the Corporation of which the value exceeds 10 million yen per business year, which derives from a business consultancy and/or an advisory agreement
- 6. A person who belongs to an organization that has received a donation from the Corporation of which the amount exceeds 10 million yen per business year
- 7. A Director/Executive Officer/Audit & Supervisory Board Member among the executing persons of the Corporation and its subsidiaries, as well as a co-resident or relative within the second degree of kinship of such Director/Executive Officer/Audit & Supervisory Board Member

Even if a person falls under any of the items 1 to 7 above, if the Corporation judges that said person substantially maintains his/her independence, the Corporation shall explain and disclose the reason for his/her election as a candidate for Outside Director.

\*4 An "executing person" refers to an Executive Director, an Executive Officer, an employee, or any other personnel.

# **Principle 4.10 Use of Optional Approach**

In adopting the most appropriate organizational structure (as stipulated by the Companies Act) that is suitable for a company's specific characteristics, companies should employ optional approaches, as necessary, to further enhance governance functions.

The Corporation conducts a diverse range of business globally. Accordingly, the Corporation has established a corporate governance model of a company with auditors in which the Board of Directors consists of Internal Directors and Outside Directors in order to ensure rapid and efficient decision-making and appropriate supervisory functions in management.

#### **Supplementary Principle 4.10.1**

If the organizational structure of a company is either Company with Kansayaku Board or Company with Supervisory Committee and independent directors do not compose a majority of the board, in order to strengthen the independence, objectivity and accountability of board functions on the matters of nomination (including succession plan) and remuneration of the senior management and directors, the company should seek appropriate involvement and advice from the committees, including from the perspective of gender and other diversity and skills, in the examination of such important matters as nominations and remuneration by establishing an independent nomination committee and remuneration committee under the board, to which such committees make significant contributions.

In particular, companies listed on the Prime Market should basically have the majority of the members of each committee be independent directors, and should disclose the mandates and roles of the committees, as well as the policy regarding the independence of the composition.

The "Governance and Remuneration Committee" and the "Nomination Committee" are set up as advisory bodies of the Board of Directors, and these strengthen management supervision functions. The memberships of both committees are composed so as to ensure independence, as Independent Outside

Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members make up a majority of the members and both committees are each chaired by an Independent Outside Director or Audit & Supervisory Board Member as well.

The Governance and Remuneration Committee deliberates on policies for determining remuneration of Directors and Executive Officers and on the appropriateness of remuneration levels and then provides recommendations to the Board of Directors. Furthermore, it deliberates on important matters related to corporate governance and conducts assessments and reviews of the Board of Directors as a whole, including the structure, operation, and other aspects of the Board of Directors, and reports thereon to the Board of Directors.

The Nomination Committee deliberates on proposals for Director and Audit & Supervisory Board Member candidate appointments and for president-designated appointments, as well as on successor plans developed and managed by the President (with necessary qualifications and requirements, successor candidate list and training plans included) and then provides recommendations to the Board of Directors.

# Principle 4.11 Preconditions for Board and Kansayaku Board Effectiveness

The board should be well balanced in knowledge, experience and skills in order to fulfill its roles and responsibilities, and it should be constituted in a manner to achieve both diversity, including gender, international experience, work experience and age, and appropriate size. In addition, persons with appropriate experience and skills as well as necessary knowledge on finance, accounting, and the law should be appointed as *kansayaku*. In particular, at least one person who has sufficient expertise on finance and accounting should be appointed as *kansayaku*.

The board should endeavor to improve its function by analyzing and evaluating effectiveness of the board as a whole.

The Corporation conducts business activities in a wide range of fields in a multifaceted manner through domestic and overseas networks, which requires the Board of Directors to deliberate on the appropriateness of management strategies and related matters, risks, and other factors associated with implementation, in an objective and multifaceted manner, and to appropriately supervise the status of execution. As such, with the aim of boosting the effectiveness of the Board of Directors, the Corporation appoints personnel with diverse experience, knowledge, expertise, insight, and other relevant qualities as well as their being well-versed in business activities, as Directors. Furthermore, by appointing non-executive Directors and multiple Independent Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members, the Corporation introduces perspectives that are not influenced by in-house practices, strengthens governance and supervision functions, and checks conflicts of interest.

As of the date of submission of the corporate governance report, the Board of Directors is composed of 10 members, with 6 of these Outside Directors (8 males and 2 female). The appropriate experience and competencies of 5 of the Audit & Supervisory Board Members, including financial, accounting, or legal knowledge, with 1 of these Audit & Supervisory Board Members having particularly high expertise in financial and accounting matters. The reasons for the selection of Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members are disclosed and can be viewed in Principle 3.1(v) above and in [Director related] and [Auditor related] under "1. Organizational Composition and Operation" in "II. Business Management Organization and Other Corporate Governance Systems regarding Decision-making, Execution of Business, and Oversight in Management" of the corporate governance report.

For details of evaluations of the effectiveness of the Board of Directors, please refer to Supplementary Principle 4.11.3.

\*5 If a company is either a Company with *Kansayaku* Board or Company with Supervisory Committee, the company is not required to establish a nomination committee or a remuneration committee by the Companies Act. However, the company may establish such committees on its own initiative.

# Supplementary Principles 4.11.1

The board should identify the skills, etc. that it should have in light of its managing strategies, and have a view on the appropriate balance between knowledge, experience and skills of the board as a whole, and also on diversity and appropriate board size. Consistent with its view, the board should establish policies and procedures for nominating directors and disclose them along with the combination of skills, etc. that each director possesses in an appropriate form according to the business environment and business characteristics, etc., such as what is known as a "skills matrix." When doing so, independent director(s) with management experience in other companies should be included.

Please refer to Principles 3.1(iv) and 4.1.1 for the criteria for Directors. As for Outside Directors, keeping in mind the Director selection standards stated in Principle 3.1(iv) above, and taking into account an optimal combination of skills and experience that the Board of Directors members should have, the Corporation appoints personnel who endeavor to understand the Corporation's business when making decisions on important matters for the Corporation, and are able to actively participate in management. 2 out of 6 Outside Directors have corporate management experience in other companies.

The Corporation makes public the details of the expertise and experience of all Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members in the form of a skill matrix. For the skill matrix, please refer to Figure 2 in "2. Other Matters Concerning to Corporate Governance System" of "V. Other" in the Corporation's corporate governance report.

#### **Supplementary Principles 4.11.2**

Outside directors, outside *kansayaku*, and other directors and *kansayaku* should devote sufficient time and effort required to appropriately fulfill their respective roles and responsibilities. Therefore, where directors and *kansayaku* also serve as directors, *kansayaku* or the management at other companies, such positions should be limited to a reasonable number and disclosed each year.

The status of the important concurrent positions of Directors, Audit & Supervisory Board Members, and candidates for such are disclosed in the General Meeting of Shareholders Convocation Notice and annual securities report each year.

#### **Supplementary Principles 4.11.3**

Each year the board should analyze and evaluate its effectiveness as a whole, taking into consideration the relevant matters, including the self-evaluations of each director. A summary of the results should be disclosed.

Since FY2016, the Corporation has held evaluations on effectiveness regarding the Board of Directors annually and made efforts to improve the Board by striving to address issues identified as a result of these evaluations and analyses.

The Board of the Directors is comprised of a majority (60%) of Independent Outside Directors with the aim of strengthening supervisory functions. In this context, an evaluation of effectiveness regarding the Board of Directors was held in FY2022 as an opportunity for discussion on the Board as a whole on the topic of a "Governance model suitable for the Corporation with regards to current circumstances and characteristics." This evaluation is intended to increase mid- to long-term corporate value in addition to facilitating a strengthening of supervisory functions.

#### I. Evaluation framework and methodology

## 1. Evaluation target

The Board of Directors (including Governance and Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee)

# 2. Evaluation process

With the context of the questionnaire responses and interviews by all members of the Board of Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members as a basis, the Governance and Remuneration Committee carried out evaluations and reviews regarding results of analyses, and the Board carried out deliberations.

#### 3. Evaluation items

- (1) Roles of the Board
- (2) Structure of the Board
- (3) Discussions at the Board
- (4) Utilization of committees
- (5) Accountability to stakeholders

# 4. Utilization of outside specialized organization

Utilizing an outside specialized organization, the Board carried out analysis and evaluation based on advanced document inspection as well as responses to questionnaires and interviews.

# II. Overview of evaluations results

#### 1. Overview

Through the process above, it has been confirmed that the Corporation's Board of Directors operates appropriately and that its effectiveness is secured.

Thanks in particular to the appropriate management of the proceedings by the chair, the following favorable evaluations were received.

- Elicitation of statements from directors, convergence of opinions, and follow-up on raised issues are managed in a timely and appropriate manner, while the Board is also operated soundly.
- Lively discussions are conducted among the directors, including the Outside Directors.
- Systems and processes for providing appropriate pre-explanations and post-reports on important issues are functioning sufficiently.

# 2. Handling issues in effectiveness evaluations pertaining to the Board of Directors in FY2021 (1) Enhancement of discussions at Board of Directors meetings regarding key material management issues, changes in external environment, and risks.

Utilizing opportunities other than routine meetings of the Board of Directors, the Directors discussed changes in the external environment, responding to the issues in energy security, international affairs, and other areas. Evaluations on these items have improved compared to results for FY2021, including evaluations in the results of questionnaires and interviews.

Furthermore, in order to strengthen the supervisory functions of the Board of Directors, it delegated authority to the Executive Officers, and agendas submitted to the Board have come to focus on more pressing management issues. As stated in "3" below, the Board will continue to implement further measures for improvement.

(2) Discussions regarding HR strategy and allocation of management resources to human capital. The Board of Directors supervised a progress review of the human resources strategy under the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024," and held discussions on the direction of such strategy, and other areas separate to regular meetings of the Board. As stated in "3" below, the Board will continue to consider its supervisory functions for human capital during investigations into the ideal configurations for deliberations and monitoring on a Group-wide basis.

#### (3) Supporting the Outside Directors to further utilize their expertise

In addition to the current provision of sufficient education opportunities and information to Outside Directors, the Corporation improved the support for Outside Directors to allow them to fulfill their duties and responsibilities, including the provision of opportunities to discuss and engage with executives.

These items have generally been highly evaluated, including in the results of questionnaires and interviews.

# 3. Handling issues in effectiveness evaluations pertaining to the Board of Directors in FY2022 (1) Deepen the discussions at the Board regarding the overall direction of the Board to strengthen its supervisory functions

The Corporation believes it is important to deepen discussions related to the overall direction of the Board of Directors and its supervisory functions based on the Group's future vision and Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024" to institute improvements.

The Board will continue discussions to establish a "Governance model suitable for the Corporation based on current circumstances and characteristics," including the facilitation of meetings separate to routine meetings of the Board.

# (2) Considering the process of selecting the items discussed at the Board and supervisory functions related to the important issue of Marubeni Group management

The Corporation believes it is important to select the items discussed at meetings of the Board of Directors based on its supervisory functions, and that it is necessary to strengthen these functions from the perspective of the entire Marubeni Group regarding important themes in Group management, such as governance and the allocation of management resources to human capital, etc.

The items that will be discussed at meetings of the Board of Directors should be selected by reflecting on its intentions, including on opinions of the Outside Directors. The Board of Directors will endeavor to monitor themes from the point of view of Group management through reviews of the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024," etc.

Referring to the results of effectiveness evaluations regarding the Board of Directors, the Corporation will continue to work on maintaining and improving the effectiveness of the Board of Directors going forward and to pursue improvements in long-term corporate value.

#### **Principle 4.12 Active Board Deliberations**

The board should endeavor to foster a climate where free, open and constructive discussions and exchanges of views take place, including the raising of concerns by outside directors.

At meetings of the Board of Directors, free, vigorous, and constructive discussions take place, and opinions are exchanged in a lively manner, without any distinction between Internal and Outside Directors.

#### **Supplementary Principles 4.12.1**

The board should ensure the following in relation to the operation of board meetings and should attempt to make deliberations active:

- i) Materials for board meetings are distributed sufficiently in advance of the meeting date;
- ii) In addition to board materials and as necessary, sufficient information is provided to directors by the company (where appropriate, the information should be organized and/or analyzed to promote easy understanding);
- iii) The schedule of board meetings for the current year and anticipated agenda items are determined in advance;
- iv) The number of agenda items and the frequency of board meetings are set appropriately; and
- v) Sufficient time for deliberations.
- i) Materials on meetings of the Board of Directors are in principle distributed at least 7 days in advance of the meetings.
- ii) Outside Directors are given a briefing in advance regarding management issues, execution status, agenda, and so on.
- iii) Notification regarding the annual schedule for the meetings is in principle given at least approximately 3 months before the start of a new fiscal year, and notification regarding the matters for deliberation is in principle given at least 10 days before each meeting. In addition, the Corporation makes the list of agendas deliberated at the meetings of the Board of Directors in the previous fiscal year and scheduled agendas for the current fiscal year. The Corporation provides the list to the Directors and the Internal Audit & Supervisory Board Members.
- iv) In FY2022, a total of 16 meetings of the Board of Directors were held, and in FY2021, a total of 17 were held. As for Matters to be Submitted to the Board of Directors, changes are considered as needed based on the status of the Corporation.
- v) The envisioned deliberation times are stated in the notifications of meetings of the Board of Directors, and the extending of deliberation times is flexibly handled based on the agenda.

#### **Principle 4.13 Information Gathering and Support Structure**

In order to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, directors and *kansayaku* should proactively collect information, and as necessary, request the company to provide them with additional information.

Also, companies should establish a support structure for directors and *kansayaku*, including providing sufficient staff.

The board and the *kansayaku* board should verify whether information requested by directors and *kansayaku* is provided smoothly.

For active information gathering by Directors, the Executive Department and Corporate Planning & Strategy Department provide support, and for active information gathering by Audit & Supervisory Board Members, the Audit & Supervisory Board Member's Office, and others provide support.

Whether the information and materials that each Director seeks are provided in a seamless manner is assessed and reviewed in the overall evaluations on the effectiveness of the Board of Directors that are carried out by the Governance and Remuneration Committee.

In order to secure opportunities for the provision of the information that Audit & Supervisory Board Members seek, the Audit & Supervisory Board formulates an annual audit plan at the beginning of the fiscal year, and then reviews the status of audit implementation at the end of such fiscal year before issuing

audit reports.

#### **Supplementary Principles 4.13.1**

Directors, including outside directors, should request the company to provide them with additional information, where deemed necessary from the perspective of contributing to transparent, fair, timely and decisive decision-making. In addition, *kansayaku*, including outside *kansayaku*, should collect information appropriately, including the use of their statutory investigation power.

As stated in Principle 4.13 above, Directors make additional information provision requests to the Executive Department and Corporate Planning & Strategy Department as needed. Aside from receiving support from the Audit & Supervisory Board Member's Office, etc., Audit & Supervisory Board Members attend meetings of the Board of Directors, Corporate Management Committee, and Committee of Executive Officers, and Internal Audit & Supervisory Board Members are given important internal documents such as decision requests without delay. In addition, Audit & Supervisory Board Members carry out interviews with Directors and management executives regarding the status of business execution, have regular meetings with audit corporations and Corporate Staff Group departments, carry out visiting audit at Marubeni Group companies, and request the submission of additional documents, explanations, and so on, as necessary.

#### **Supplementary Principles 4.13.2**

Directors and *kansayaku* should consider consulting with external specialists at company expense, where they deem it necessary.

The Audit & Supervisory Board concludes contracts with legal advisors, and the Corporation covers the expenses for this. In addition, when the Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members think it necessary to hire outside experts, the Corporation's policy is to cover the expenses for such.

#### **Supplementary Principles 4.13.3**

Companies should ensure coordination between the internal audit department, directors and *kansayaku* by establishing a system in which the internal audit department appropriately reports directly to the board and the *kansayaku* board in order for them to fulfill their functions. In addition, companies should take measures to adequately provide necessary information to outside directors and outside *kansayaku*. One example would be the appointment of an individual who is responsible for communicating and handling requests within the company such that the requests for information about the company by outside directors and outside *kansayaku* are appropriately processed.

Coordination with Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members is ensured through the Internal Audit Department's practices of giving reports directly in a timely and appropriate fashion, including giving an annual internal audit report to the Board of Directors and reporting to the Audit & Supervisory Board on issue-specific internal audit findings on a quarterly basis. The role of various communications and coordination operations aimed at enabling Outside Directors and Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members to acquire accurate company information is undertaken by the Executive Department, Corporate Planning & Strategy Department, Audit & Supervisory Board Member's Office, and so on, as stated in Principle 4.13 and Supplementary Principle 4.13(1) above.

# Principle 4.14 Director and Kansayaku Training

New and incumbent directors and *kansayaku* should deepen their understanding of their roles and responsibilities as a critical governance body at a company, and should endeavor to acquire and update necessary knowledge and skills. Accordingly, companies should provide and arrange training opportunities suitable to each director and *kansayaku* along with financial support for associated expenses. The board should verify whether such opportunities and support are appropriately provided.

The Corporation provides sufficient information to all Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members so that they acquire sufficient knowledge and devote themselves to studying in order to fulfill their expected roles and responsibilities. The Corporation provides Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members with opportunities for training, and it also covers the required expenses for such.

# **Supplementary Principles 4.14.1**

Directors and *kansayaku*, including outside directors and outside *kansayaku*, should be given the opportunity when assuming their position to acquire necessary knowledge on the company's business, finances, organization and other matters, and fully understand the roles and responsibilities, including legal liabilities, expected of them. Incumbent directors should also be given a continuing opportunity to renew and update such knowledge as necessary.

Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members are provided with the information they need to perform their duties in an appropriate and timely manner, with the Corporate Planning & Strategy Department, Executive Department, Audit & Supervisory Board Member's Office, and so on, playing central roles in this regard. Also, Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members may participate in meetings and seminars as necessary, at the Corporation's cost. In addition, in advance of meetings of the Board of Directors, Outside Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members are given briefings regarding management issues, execution status, agenda, and so on.

Furthermore, reports on the economic situation are given on a regular basis by the Marubeni Research Institute for the Committee of Executive Officers, and so on, and an effort is made to share information. Outside Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members are also given opportunities to receive explanations regarding distributions of operations, issues, and project implementation status at each business group and corporate staff department.

# FY2022 Key Achievements

Training and provision of information to deepen understanding of the external environment

- Lecture from outside lawyer to Outside Directors/Audit & Supervisory Board Members about, "Topics regarding the Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders this year and Board 3.0" (June 2022)
- Provision of information to Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members about the economic environment from the Marubeni Research Institute (at least weekly, more frequently if necessary)

Themes: The situation in Ukraine, the economic outlook following monetary normalizations in the U.S. and Europe, Japan's semiconductor industry policy, the outlook for the world economy in 2023, etc.

Training and provision of information to deepen understanding of the Corporation

- Explanations from each business group and each corporate staff department to new Outside Directors on distributions of operations, issues, and project implementation status at each division (May-June 2022)
- Status updates on the Corporation and promotion of mutual understanding through Audit &

Supervisory Board Members' regular meetings with the Chairman of the Board, the President, CSO, CFO, and CAO respectively (held 9 times in total (Outside Directors attended 6 times))

Themes: Corporate governance of the Corporation and the Marubeni Group, issues regarding internal control and compliance in the Marubeni Group, etc.

- Free discussion among Outside Directors, the Chairperson of the Board, and the President (held 2 times in total)
  - Themes: The function and roles of the Board of Directors considering changes in the external environment, the overall direction of human resources strategy and development, etc.
- Meetings between Outside Directors and divisional Chief Operating Officers (held 6 times in total)

  Themes: Issues which the Corporation is facing at this moment with a view to the situation 10 years hence, etc.
- Visits to Group companies by Outside Audit Supervisory & Board Members

  Interview with the management of Marubeni Nisshin Feed Co., Ltd., which produces and sells compound feed, and visit to its Chita Plant (December 2022), etc.
- Explanation of agendas in advance of Board of Directors meetings to Outside Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members from the Corporate Planning & Strategy Department and Legal Department (as necessary)
- Sharing of interview details from Internal Audit & Supervisory Board Members to Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members (as necessary)

\*Site visits were not held in FY2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, they were resumed starting in FY2022.

# **Supplementary Principles 4.14.2**

Companies should disclose their training policy for directors and kansayaku.

With the aim of deepening knowledge regarding the Marubeni Group's Management Philosophy, corporate management, business activities, organization, and so on, Outside Directors and Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members are provided with the information they need to perform their duties in an appropriate and timely manner. The Corporation also provides opportunities to Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members, including Outside Directors and Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members, to participate in seminars and so on, as needed, so that they can fulfill their roles and duties, with the Corporation covering the expenses, etc. for such.

# **Section 5: Dialogue with Shareholders**

# **General Principle 5**

In order to contribute to sustainable growth and the increase of corporate value over the mid-to long-term, companies should engage in constructive dialogue with shareholders even outside the general shareholder meeting.

During such dialogue, senior management and directors, including outside directors, should listen to the views of shareholders and pay due attention to their interests and concerns, clearly explain business policies to shareholders in an understandable manner so as to gain their support, and work for developing a balanced understanding of the positions of shareholders and other stakeholders and acting accordingly.

The Corporation recognizes that, in order to realize sustained growth and the improvement of mid to long-term corporate value, constructive dialogues with shareholders are important. As such, the Corporation has prepared an IR system centering on a Director in charge of IR, and establishes opportunities for dialogues to be held with shareholders on a regular basis. For details, please refer to Principle 5.1 and Supplementary Principles 5.1.1 through 5.1.3.

# **Principle 5.1 Policy for Constructive Dialogue with Shareholders**

Companies should, positively and to the extent reasonable, respond to the requests from shareholders to engage in dialogue (management meetings) so as to support sustainable growth and increase corporate value over the mid- to long-term. The board should establish, approve and disclose policies concerning the measures and organizational structures aimed at promoting constructive dialogue with shareholders.

Policy for constructive dialogues with shareholders

(Basic philosophy)

The Corporation believes that in order to boost mid- to long-term corporate value, constructive dialogues with shareholders and investors are important. Based on dialogues, the Corporation obtains understanding from shareholders and investors of its management policies, etc., understands the standpoints of shareholders and investors, and makes efforts to respond appropriately.

(Supervisory manager)

In order to realize constructive dialogues with shareholders and investors, the CFO is appointed as the Director in charge of IR.

(Initiative system)

An IR specialization department is set up, and the relevant departments carry out information exchanges and other in-house collaboration centering on this department.

(Means for dialogues)

In addition to individual interviews, the Corporation uses efforts to provide ample means for dialogues, including General Meetings of Shareholders, financial results briefings and group meetings for institutional investors, briefings for individual investors, and so on.

(Feedback policy)

The IR specialization department creates a summary regarding the opinions, requests, and so on recognized through dialogues, and then appropriately provides quarterly feedback to the President, CFO, and Outside Directors, etc.

(Policy regarding control of insider information)

During dialogues, insider information is appropriately controlled in accordance with the in-house rules

in the "Regulation for Prevention of Insider Trading."

#### **Supplementary Principles 5.1.1**

Taking the requests and interests of shareholders into consideration, to the extent reasonable, the senior management, directors, including outside directors, and *kansayaku*, should have a basic position to engage in dialogue (management meetings) with shareholders.

On the occasion of scheduling a meeting with shareholders, a decision as to who should actually attend such dialogues (management meetings) will be made within a reasonable scope, with requests from the shareholders and the principal issue of interest being considered as well.

#### **Supplementary Principles 5.1.2**

At minimum, policies for promoting constructive dialogue with shareholders should include the following:

- i) Appointing a member of the management or a director who is responsible for overseeing and ensuring that constructive dialogue takes place, including the matters stated in items ii) to v) below;
- ii) Measures to ensure positive cooperation between internal departments such as investor relations, corporate planning, general affairs, corporate finance, accounting and legal affairs with the aim of supporting dialogue;
- iii) Measures to promote opportunities for dialogue aside from individual meetings (e.g., general investor meetings and other IR activities);
- iv) Measures to appropriately and effectively relay shareholder views and concerns learned through dialogue to the senior management and the board; and
- v) Measures to control insider information when engaging in dialogue.
- i) The CFO, who is the Representative Director, is appointed as the Director in charge of IR.
- ii) Centering on the Investor Relations Section of the Finance Department, operational supervisory capacity is assigned to each of the Corporate Planning & Strategy Department, General Affairs Department, Corporate Accounting Department, and Legal Department, and these Departments collaborate with each other by maintaining mutual communication.
- iii) The Investor Relations Section of the Finance Department holds financial result briefings, business briefings, briefings for individual investors, and group meetings with institutional investors, etc. on a regular basis.
- iv) The Investor Relations Section of the Finance Department creates a summary of the questions and opinions of shareholders that have been recognized at briefings, interviews, and so on, and gives a report through an official line to the CFO, who is the Representative Director and Director in charge of IR.
- v) "Regulation for Prevention of Insider Trading" has been established, and an appropriate information control system has been created in accordance with these regulations.

#### **Supplementary Principles 5.1.3**

Companies should endeavor to identify their shareholder ownership structure as necessary, and it is desirable for shareholders to cooperate as much as possible in this process.

The Corporation identifies the composition of the shareholders on the list of shareholders, based on the list of shareholders at the end of March and end of September, and makes efforts to identify the structure of shareholders by implementing surveys on beneficial shareholders based on the list of shareholders as of the end of March.

# Principle 5.2 Establishing and Disclosing Business Strategies and Business Plans

When establishing and disclosing business strategies and business plans, companies should articulate their earnings plans and capital policies, and present targets for profitability and capital efficiency after accurately identifying the company's cost of capital. Also, companies should provide explanations that are clear and logical to shareholders with respect to the allocation of management resources, such as reviewing their business portfolio and investments in fixed assets, R&D, and human capital, and specific measures that will be taken in order to achieve their plans and targets.

The Corporation formulated the three-year Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024," launched in FY2022. In GC2024, the Corporation maintains its current long-term direction, keeping the focus on our corporate value, and sets "Green Business and Greening" as a basic policy. The Review of "GC2021" and the Basic Policy of "GC2024" are as follows.

Review of "GC2021"

"3 Years of Transformation"

- Rebuilt and Strengthened Our Financial Foundation
- Completed Asset Write-downs, Solidified Earnings Base

Three-year cumulative achievements compared to Target in GC2021 is as below.

		Target		GC2021 Three-year Results (FYE 3/2020-3/2022)	
Consolidated net profit (FYE 3/2022)		¥300.0bn		¥424.3bn	
CF	Core operating CF (Three-year cumulative)	¥1,200.0bn		¥1,303.9bn	
	FCF after shareholder distributions (Three-year cumulative)	¥+100.0bn or more		¥+419.2bn	
Net DE ratio		Around 0.7 times  *Revised to around 1.0 in the "GC2021 Revision"		0.80 times	
New investments including CAPEX (Three-year cumulative)			00.0bn	Horizon 1	approx.¥300.0bn
			00.0bn 00.0bn	Horizon 2 Horizon 3	approx.¥390.0bn approx.¥50.0bn
ROE		10% or more		23.0%	

< Outline of "GC2024">

"Basic Policy"

- Develop and establish a stable earnings base by strengthening current business domains and exploring new business models
- Lead the transition to a Green economy by expanding "Green business" and "Greening" in all business domains

<sup>&</sup>quot;Green business\*1"

- Expanding Green Business based on the current business base, which is already strong and profitable
- Creating new Green Business through cross-sectional approaches and utilization of business connections
  - \*¹ Sustainable businesses which have positive effects on the environment, such as decarbonization and the circular economy, and adjacent businesses which supply those businesses with non-substitutable materials, etc. Also see supplement 1 for detailed descriptions.

#### "Greening"

- Reducing negative impacts on the environment and contributing to the transition to a Circular Economy
- Building sustainable supply chains through cooperation with business partners
- Businesses essential for transition to a decarbonized society (natural gas, LNG, etc.)

#### "Business Policies 'SPP""

The Corporation continues to work on maximizing the value of the group-wide business portfolio through a rigorous selection of new investments on the basis of SPP, as well as by enhancing existing businesses and accelerating divestment and asset recycling.

# Strategy:

- "Strategy-Focused", closing the gap between our future vision and the present
- Exploiting dynamic value creation via digital transformation ("DX")

#### Prime:

- Taking the initiative to execute the strategy
- Pursuing business through majority investment or mutually complementing partnerships, and proactively contributing to enhancing business value

#### Platform:

- Value creation by utilizing and expanding Marubeni's platform, combining a wide variety of internal and external expertise
- Pursue platform-type businesses that provide synergies and long-term growth

## "Improving Profitability"

Through implementing ROIC\*2/CROIC\*3/RORA\*4 to monitor capital efficiency and risk/return ratio, the Corporation improves in ROE through better asset quality.

- \*2 Return on Invested Capital
- \*3 Cash Return on Invested Capital
- \*4 Return on Risk Asset

# "Marubeni Group HR Strategy"

Promoting the growth and success of the Marubeni Group's human capital, the critical source of our corporate value.

- Mission-oriented HR System: Merit-based and encourages a challenge mindset
- Developing and Empowering Diversified Human Capital: Optimization of the working environment and strengthening HR development

 Talent Management Committee: Promotion of HR strategy led by core members of the executive team (CEO, CAO, CSO)

For more on human capital investment, please also refer to Supplementary Principle 3.1.3.

# "Financial Targets"

Financial Target in GC2024 is as below and pursuing long-term growth of corporate value.

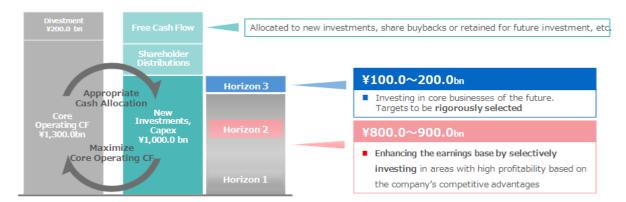
- Consolidated net profit (FY2024): JPY400.0bn
- Core operating CF (Three-year cumulative): JPY 1,300.0bn
- ROE: 15% (Net DE ratio of around 0.7-0.8 times)

#### "Capital Allocation Policy"

While working to strengthen and enhance our financial foundation, the focus will be on Growth and Shareholder Returns.

- Maximizing Core operating CF
- Maintaining positive FCF after shareholder distributions (Three-year cumulative FCF, excluding effects from changes in working capital)

Capital Allocation for each Horizon (Horizon 1: Improvement of existing businesses, Horizon 2: Pursuit of strategies in existing business domains, Horizon 3: New business models and unapproached business domains) is as below.



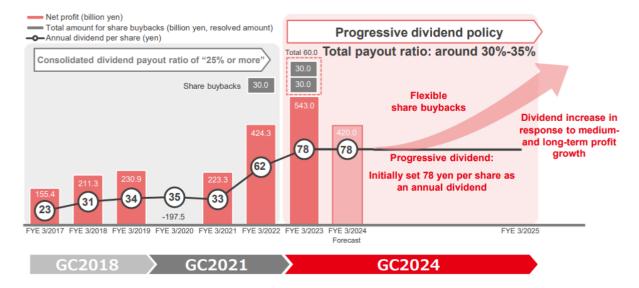
"Shareholder Returns Policy"

"Basic Policy of Dividends"

Paying a stable dividend over the long term and increasing dividends in response to medium- and long-term profit growth.

"Shareholder Returns for GC2024"

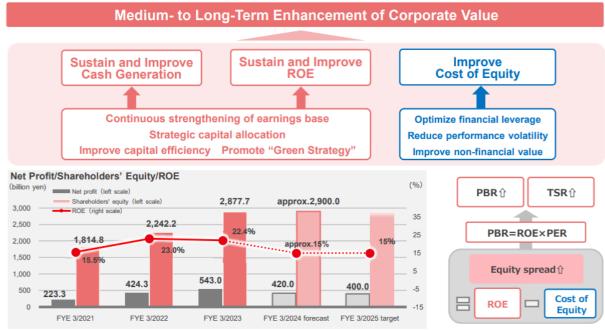
- Progressive dividend policy initially set to 78 yen per share as an annual dividend.
- Conduct flexible share buybacks targeting a total payout ratio of around 30%—35%.



In addition to the above, in its Full-year IR Presentation for FY2022, the Corporation discloses its "Action to Implement Management that is Conscious of Cost of Capital and Stock Price" as "Measures to Improve Corporate Value" as follows. Please also refer to the Corporation's Integrated Report.

#### Measures to Improve Corporate Value

- Steady progress in sustaining and improving "Cash Generation/ROE/Cost of Equity" under GC2024
- Pursue higher stock price/TSR\* and mid- and long-term growth in corporate value, by striving to "sustain and improve ROE" as well as to "improve cost of equity"



<sup>\*</sup> Total Shareholder Return: (Capital gains + Dividends) / Purchase price (Invested amount)

<Full-year IR Presentation for FY2022> (page 15) https://www.marubeni.com/en/ir/reports/appendix/

#### <Integrated Report >

https://www.marubeni.com/en/ir/reports/integrated\_report/

In the Full-year IR Presentation for FY2022, the Corporation also discloses the progress of the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024."

## **Supplementary Principles 5.2.1**

In formulating and announcing business strategies, etc., companies should clearly present the basic policy regarding the business portfolio decided by the board and the status of the review of such portfolio.

In the Mid-Term Management Strategy "GC2024," the Corporation sets the basic policy of "strengthening current business domains and exploring new business models" and "expanding 'Green business' and 'Greening' in all business domains", with these multi-layered approaches leading to "Growth" to enhance corporate value.

As a basic approach that applies commonly across all business models of the Marubeni Group, the Group will proceed to work on maximizing the value of the group-wide business portfolio through a rigorous selection of new investments on the basis of SPP, which was newly developed in GC2021, as well as by enhancing existing businesses and accelerating divestment and asset recycling.

In its decision-making process regarding new investments, which should naturally be in line with its approach pursuant to Business Policies SPP, the Corporation will make a final decision only after it reaches a deeper level of understanding of the business model of the prospective deal and ample time is spent to engage in discussions as to: how and by what strategy the Corporation should go about improving the business's value, taking advantage of its strengths; what action should be taken to address external circumstances and industry prospects as are comprehended by conducting an analysis and; how to step up governance over the business administration after the investment is done.

With respect to asset recycling, the Corporation takes the same approach and will perform asset replacement accordingly, as part of its efforts aimed at enhancement and betterment of its existing businesses at large. As processes to follow after the investment are significant for the purpose of achieving strategic growth, the Corporation checks the capital efficiency and risk/return ratio by means of regular monitoring by implementing ROIC/CROIC/RORA, and improves in ROE through better asset quality. Each time there is a change to any condition assumed when the investment was made, the Corporation reshapes the strategy. Any project that is in good shape for the time being but is deemed to have already passed its peak, or is found to lack in significance for strategic purposes, will be subjected to asset recycling.