

From the Commissioner



The mission of National Tax Agency (NTA) is “to help taxpayers meet their tax responsibilities properly and without difficulty.” To fulfill this mission, we provide best service to taxpayers as well as conduct proper and fair enforcement so that compliant taxpayers feel that tax laws are applied fairly to everyone. We have also been responding to the changing environments, such as globalization of economic activities and advances in information and communication technology (ICT), by implementing various measures.

In terms of enhancing taxpayer service, the NTA has taken a number of steps to make the filings and payments procedure more serviceable for taxpayers utilizing ICT, including online national tax return filing and tax payment system (e-Tax) as well as filing assistance on the NTA website.

Regarding “e-Tax” particularly, we aim to further improve user convenience. We have started providing services through smartphones and tablets. We are planning to introduce (i) new identification procedure method that will not require a digital certificate based on the Public Certification Service for Individuals and (ii) submission of attached documents as image data.

In terms of achieving proper and fair enforcement, we are taking rigorous actions against large and vicious fraudulent cases, giving higher priority to the affluent classes and international cases. At the same time, we protect the rights and interests of taxpayers.

In taking actions against international tax avoidance cases in particular, we make an active use of information obtained through various sources including statements of foreign assets, which affluent taxpayers have been obliged to submit since January 2014, as well as information exchanged with foreign tax authorities.

Starting January 2016, the Social Security and Tax Number System will take effect. In this system, the NTA will be the entity to assign Corporate Numbers, as well as an entity to utilize both Individual and Corporate Numbers. We are now taking necessary steps including system development. This gives us a great opportunity to review and upgrade our operations and systems so that we can enhance taxpayer convenience and also make our enforcement more efficient and more sophisticated.

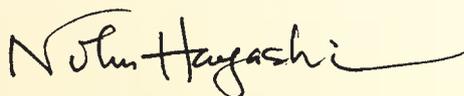
Every member of the staff at the NTA is dedicated to help taxpayers file tax returns and pay tax duties properly and without difficulty, through various measures as stated above.

In order to carry out our mission, the taxpayers' understanding and trust is essential as to the integrity and fairness of the NTA and its staff. Therefore, we provide information on our various activities, policy initiatives, and other issues, through our website, press releases and other opportunities.

The NTA Report is one of such efforts and explains our activities and developments for the previous year together with statistical data and other references.

I would appreciate it if this "National Tax Agency Report 2015" would help you to better understand us and the NTA.

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Nobumitsu Hayashi
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