

# From the Commissioner

---

The mission of the National Tax Agency (NTA) is “to help taxpayers meet their tax responsibilities properly and without difficulty”.

To succeed in this mission, the NTA endeavors to provide enhanced service to taxpayers as well as to conduct proper and fair taxation and collection.

The NTA was organized in 1949, and this year marks the 70th anniversary of founding. During that period, the environment surrounding tax administration has changed drastically. Especially, in recent years, the computerization and globalization of the economic society is remarkable.

In order to continue fulfilling its mission in this rapidly changing age, the NTA, in June 2017, publicized “Future Vision of Tax Administration” as guidelines that conceptualize the NTA’s image of around 10 years later.

Toward the realization of the vision, the NTA is pushing forward with a variety of efforts, such as embarking on business process reengineering and improving infrastructure on a full scale.

In terms of enhancing taxpayer service, the NTA provides helpful information to taxpayers about tax filing and payment via the NTA website and other sources in an easy-to-understand manner, and the NTA has also taken a number of steps to make the filing and payment procedures more accessible to taxpayers utilizing ICT.

From January 2019, individual taxpayers can use e-Tax to file income tax returns through its special screen on smartphones and other devices. Planning to expand procedures that can be performed through this system after January 2020, the NTA continues striving to enhance convenience for taxpayers.

In October this year, the consumption tax rate is scheduled to be increased and an accompanying reduced tax rate system will be introduced. The NTA will make it certain to increase publicity of the new system and give consultation and others in an effort to facilitate business operators to make preparations smoothly and to ensure that the new system takes root soon after.

Regarding the Social Security and Tax Number System (the so-called My Number System), the government as a whole is considering promotional measures to popularize My Number Card and facilitate the utilization of My Number and Corporate Numbers.

Considering such circumstances, the NTA is enhancing efficiency in administrative work by using My Number System and in parallel, for example, is building a mechanism that enables taxpayers to collect all information necessary for filing year-end tax adjustment and final tax returns in a lump through the Mynportal and make automatic entries into applicable return forms.

---

The NTA will, in sequence, prepare the infrastructure that allows taxpayers to access useful services with My Number Card. Please make better use of My Number Card and Corporate Numbers.

The NTA takes systematic and strict action against large-scale and malicious conduct while attempting to protect the rights and profits of taxpayers toward realizing proper and fair taxation and collection.

In addition, as an effort to promote compliance with the obligation to pay taxes, the NTA has started publicity activities, for example, to inform those who start new financial transactions including assets in crypto assets (virtual currency) of methods to calculate their income and key points in filing returns. For large corporations, the NTA is pushing forward with efforts to enhance corporate governance related to tax affairs in order to maintain and improve the level of tax returns filed by them.

Taxation on multinational corporations and taxation and collection of tax on cross-border transfer of assets, etc. have become globally important issues.

To this end, while strengthening collection and utilization of information and engaging in cooperation with foreign tax authorities, the NTA is endeavoring to improve, expand and reinforce the execution system and proactively conducts examinations, etc.

The NTA is determined to work harder than before to appropriately respond to illicit acts, such as hiding assets overseas and international tax avoidance performed by the affluent taxpayers and corporations that conduct cross-border transactions.

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

To expedite implementation of such measures, taxpayers' understanding and trust in tax administration are essential.

This NTA Report informs taxpayers in an easy-to-understand manner of the NTA's activities and topics during the past year with charts and photos in addition to statistical data.

I would appreciate if this "National Tax Agency Report 2019" would help you to better understand us and the NTA.

June 2019

藤井健志

Fujii Takeshi

Commissioner  
National Tax Agency, Japan