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**AN OUTLINE OF
JAPANESE
TAX ADMINISTRATION
2003**



**NATIONAL TAX AGENCY
JAPAN**

FOREWORD

This booklet, "An Outline of Japanese Tax Administration," explains the present state of Japan's tax administration based on the latest statistics. It has been published yearly since 1968.

National Tax Agency (NTA) was founded in June 1, 1949 as Finance Ministry's affiliated agency in charge of assessing and collecting domestic taxes. NTA currently has 12 regional taxation bureaus and 524 tax offices throughout the nation. More than 56,000 tax officials are working all over the country.

Economic environments surrounding tax administrative affairs have been recently becoming more complicated due to economic globalization and rapid progresses in IT technologies. In addition, Japanese taxpayers are becoming more and more interested in taxation affairs.

To address such significant environmental changes and properly fulfill our responsibilities entrusted by taxpayers, NTA recognizes the importance in achieving proper and fair taxation and in gaining the understanding and trust of taxpayers.

This booklet provides variety of information on Japan's current tax administrative affairs. I would be grateful if this booklet could serve as a useful reference and help readers deepen the understanding and trust our tax administration.

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Commissioner
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CONTENTS

PART 1. INTRODUCTION	1
1. Standards and Guidelines on NTA’s Administrative Tasks, and Performance Evaluation	1
(1) ”Instruction concerning Standards and Guidelines on Administrative Tasks of National Tax Agency” (Instruction #12 of the Ministry of Finance)	1
(2) “The Mission of National Tax Agency”	3
(3) Evaluation of NTA’s performance	3
2. Overview of Tax Administrative Structure	8
(1) Organization Structure of NTA	8
(2) Number of personnel	11
3. Operating Costs of Tax Administration	19
4. Budget Structure and Tax Revenue in Japan	21
(1) Tax and stamp duty revenues in the general account budget	21
(2) Outline of tax and stamp duty revenues	22
(3) National tax system (taxes on income, consumption and property)	26
(4) Tax burden ratio	29
PART 2. AN OUTLINE OF TAX ENFORCEMENT	31
1. Briefing	31
2. Self-Assessment System	31
(1) The self-assessment and blue return systems	31
(2) Record keeping by magnetic media	35
3. Withholding Tax System	36
4. Outline of Tax Items	40
(1) Income tax	40
(2) Corporate tax	44
(3) Inheritance tax and gift tax	50
(4) Land value tax	54
(5) Liquor tax	55
(6) Consumption tax	66
(7) Excise taxes (tobacco tax, etc.)	74
5. Combatting Tax Evasion	79
(1) Criminal Investigation program	79

(2) Combatting evasion of indirect taxes.....	82
6. Tax Payment and Collection of Delinquent Taxes.....	84
(1) Payment of taxes.....	84
(2) Collection of delinquent taxes.....	89
7. International Tax Administration.....	94
(1) Economic globalization and tax administration.....	94
(2) Cooperation with foreign tax authorities.....	97
8. Certified NPO (nonprofit organization) System.....	99
9. Public Relations.....	99
(1) Purpose of public relations.....	99
(2) Organization for public relations.....	99
(3) Public relations activities.....	100
(4) Public hearing activities.....	102
10. Tax Consultation.....	103
(1) Tax Counsel Offices.....	103
(2) Tax Answer system.....	104
(3) Co-ordination Officer (Taxpayer Support).....	107
11. Cooperation with Local Tax Authorities.....	107
12. Certified Public Tax Accountant System.....	108
13. Providing Adequate Informational System for Office Works.....	110
(1) Outline.....	110
(2) Basic Functions of KSK System.....	111
14. Initiatives for Introducing E-Filing.....	111
15. Monitoring of Administrative Works.....	112
16. Improvement of public service counters.....	113
17. Public Information Disclosure.....	113
PART 3. APPELLATE SYSTEM.....	114
1. Outline of Appellate System.....	114
2. Requests for Reinvestigation.....	117
3. Requests for Reconsideration.....	117
4. Litigation.....	123
PART 4. PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.....	125
1. Staff Employment.....	125
2. Composition of Staff.....	126
3. Training.....	126
4. Appointments.....	134

5. Salaries.....	134
6. Administrative Ethics	135

INDEX OF TABLES AND FIGURES

(Tables)

Table 1: Location, Territories and Number of Tax Offices under the Jurisdiction of Regional Taxation Bureaus and Okinawa Regional Taxation Office	12
Table 2: Annual Cost of Tax Collection.....	20
Table 3: Breakdown of General Account Revenue and Ratio of Tax Revenue to Total Revenue	23
Table 4: Yearly Composition of National Revenue	24
Table 5: Yearly Composition of National Revenue (Income Tax, Consumption Tax and Property Tax).....	27
Table 6: Ratio of Tax Burden to National Income	29
Table 7: Trends in the Number of Blue Return Individuals	33
Table 8: Trends in the Numbers of Corporations and Blue Return Corporations	34
Table 9: Trends in the Number of Individuals Required to Use the Bookkeeping System.....	35
Table 10: Number of Withholding Agents	38
Table 11: Taxation by Withholding Income Tax	39
Table 12: Number of Final Returns	40
Table 13: Number of Income Tax Payers and the Amount of Tax Liability.....	41
Table 14: Status of Corporate Returns.....	46
Table 15: Corporation Tax Revenue.....	47
Table 16: Amount of Inheritance Tax Revenue	52
Table 17: Amount of Gift Tax Revenue	53
Table 18: Average of Valuation Standard Values of Standard Land for Residential Areas for 2003 (by block).....	54
Table 19: Tax Rates for Major Categories of Liquor	56
Table 20: Number of Licenses for Manufacture and Sale of Liquor.....	59
Table 21: Taxable Volume of Liquor and Liquor Tax Revenue	60
Table 22: Amount of Consumption Tax Revenue.....	73
Table 23: Amount of Gasoline Tax Revenue	75
Table 24: Disposition of Criminal Investigation Cases.....	81
Table 25: Disposition of Indirect Tax Evasion Cases	83
Table 26: Amount of National Taxes Collected.....	86

Table 27: Number of Applications for Tax Payment in Kind	87
Table 28: Diffusion of Tax Payment by Account Transfer	89
Table 29: Accrual and Disposition of Delinquent Tax	93
Table 30: Cases of Mutual Agreement Arising, Processed and Deferred	97
Table 31: Tax Treaty Signatory Countries	98
Table 32: Number of Information Exchanges	98
Table 33: 20 Most Frequently Asked Questions Using Tax Answer (via Phone or Fax) in FY2002 (April 2002 to March 2003)	105
Table 34: Tax Offices Supplied with Co-ordination Officers (Taxpayer Support).....	107
Table 35: Registered Number of Certified Public Tax Accountants	110
Table 36: Disposition of Requests for Reinvestigation	119
Table 37: Disposition of Requests for Reconsideration	122
Table 38 Dispositions of Litigation Cases (Government as Defendant)	124
Table 39: Number of Trainees on Courses at the National Tax College.....	133

(Figures)

Figure 1: NTA Organization Chart in FY2003 (except Okinawa).....	13
Figure 2: Organization Chart of Tax Administration in FY2003 (Okinawa Regional Taxation Office).....	18
Figure 3: Organization Chart of Tax Office	19
Figure 4: Breakdown of the National Tax Revenue (FY2003 Budget).....	28
Figure 5: International Comparison of the Public Share of Tax and Social Security Burdens	30
Figure 6: Flow of Consumption Tax	69
Figure 7: Compulsory Collection Procedure for Delinquent Taxes	91
Figure 8: Percentage of Tax Consultation by Tax Type in FY2002 (April 2002 to March 2003).....	106
Figure 9: Use of Tax Answer.....	106
Figure 10: Outline of the Existing Appellate and Litigation Systems.....	116