



## UK Modern Slavery Act 2015 Transparency Statement

June 2020

This Statement is made under Section 54 of the UK's Modern Slavery Act 2015 (the "Act") and sets out the steps that the Norinchukin Bank ("the Bank") took during its Financial Year 2019 ("FY2019") (ending on 31 March 2020) to ensure that slavery and human trafficking does not occur in any of its supply chains or any part of its business. This statement will be reviewed annually for publication after every financial year.

### **Corporate Structure and Business**

As the main bank for the agriculture, fishery and forestry industries, the Bank financially supports the development of these industries and cooperative organisations in Japan. The Bank has created a unique cooperative financing program, aimed at providing financial support for the development of these industries, as well as related cooperative organisations.

The operations of the Bank are based in its Head Office and 19 branches throughout Japan, as well as its branches in New York, London and Singapore, and its representative offices in Hong Kong and Beijing.

### **Our policies and procedures**

The Bank is committed to a strong ethical culture in the course of its business to improve the economic and social positions of farmers, fishermen and foresters. It is contrary to the Bank's mission and policies to tolerate Modern Slavery in its business or its supply chain, and the Bank's employees are expected to comply with this position.

The Bank's Code of Ethics provides the framework for the business standards and expectations of its culture. The Code of Conduct further sets out rules for the staff to observe in order to conduct business in accordance with the Bank's fundamental mission and social responsibilities. In addition to these Codes, to announce its strong commitment to the facilitation of human rights protection, the Bank published the Human Rights Policy on its website in October 2019. In this Policy, the Bank pledges to respect human rights in all aspects of its business activities and operations and to continually enhance the dignity and self-esteem that each individual is equally entitled to.

Strict compliance with laws and regulations, respect for human rights as well as a "zero tolerance" policy against anti-social forces which threaten the safety and order of civil society and have impacts such as those which this Act seeks to address are among the Bank's fundamental principles. Bank staff receive training on the Bank's Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct annually.

### **Our Assessment**

The Bank carries out measures, such as due diligence processes when investing or outsourcing, to prevent human rights infringement from occurring in the course of its business (including, for example, seeking to prevent modern slavery infringements by the third parties that the Bank has identified as its supply chain). Especially, when outsourcing, the Bank requires any contractor to apply the internal control systems equivalent to the Bank's own and it works with contractors to improve internal controls through a periodic monitoring process.

The Bank periodically reviews its framework (including, but not limited to, when conducting its annual risk assessment) and seeks independent advice and guidance where appropriate to ensure that its framework is in line with good practice for the achievement and delivery of the Bank's policy goals. Additionally, the Bank provides employees with suitable training concerning the identified supply chains in order to enable them to assess these risks and perform their due diligence.

### **Our Position**

The Bank's processes include the continuing review of due diligence and training needs and demonstrate the commitment to the principles of the Act by the Board of Directors and the Bank as a whole. The role of the Compliance Committee established by the Board of Directors is to assess compliance with legislation and regulation including the Act. This Statement has been duly considered by the Compliance Committee and recommended for approval by the appropriate Managing Director of the Bank.

The Bank affirms its commitment to taking steps to ensure that slavery and human trafficking are not taking place in its business or supply chains.

Dated June 01, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kei Fujisaki". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

FUJISAKI Kei  
Managing Director, Member of the Board  
The Norinchukin Bank