

## **Japan Society for Tobacco Control**

### **1. Organizational Aims**

- (1) Research and investigation of tobacco products, the tobacco industry, tobacco-related policy, and exposure to tobacco smoke.
- (2) Promotion of smoking cessation and passive smoking prevention with the involvement of diverse professionals, including medical doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, lawyers, and others who are interested in preventing harms caused by tobacco products.

### **2. Mission Statement.**

The spread of the tobacco epidemic is a global problem with serious consequences for public health. We are concerned by the devastating worldwide health, social, economic, and environmental consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke. Scientific evidence has unequivocally established that tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke cause death, disease, and disability, and that there is a time lag between the exposure to smoking and other uses of tobacco products and the onset of tobacco-related diseases.

Cigarettes and many other products containing tobacco are highly engineered so as to create and maintain dependence, and many of the compounds they contain and the smoke they produce are pharmacologically active, toxic, mutagenic, and carcinogenic; tobacco dependence is separately classified as disorder in major international classifications of diseases. There is also clear evidence that prenatal exposure to tobacco smoke causes adverse health and developmental conditions for children.

In this context, Japan's Health Promotion Law has been in force since in May 2003 and the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control has been in force in Japan since February 2005. We have established our Society with the aid of medical doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, lawyers, and other people who interested in preventing harms caused by tobacco products. We would like to help all people avoid social, economic, environmental, and health-related harms from tobacco products in all forms and at all process stages including agriculture, production, distribution, and consumption.

Our enterprise includes the following endeavors:

- (1) Annual meetings, research meetings and lecture meetings in furtherance of research and education about tobacco control.
- (2) Publishing the Japanese Journal of Tobacco Control, and various publications for public distribution.
- (3) Research and investigation of the harms caused by tobacco products as well as studies addressing cessation from tobacco and related substance use.
- (4) Examination of Board Certified Doctors in tobacco control and establishing standards for such certifications.
- (5) Cooperation and linkage with like-minded societies in Japan and internationally.
- (6) Pursuit of social improvement, education, and positive policy developments with regards to tobacco control.
- (7) Enlightenment for the general population by way of social promotions, contests, and the like.
- (8) Other measures in pursuit of the Society's goals and mission.

### **3. Establishment**

We have thus established the Japan Society for Tobacco Control in April 2006.