

**JSPS A3 Foresight Program  
FY2017 CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**< Molecular Imaging-based Precision Medicine >**

**Notes:**

- (1) This “FY2017 Call for Proposals” is an English translation of the official announcement in Japanese. Applicants should observe the accompanying Japanese Application Guidelines ([http://www.jsp.go.jp/j-foresight/01\\_boshuyoko.html](http://www.jsp.go.jp/j-foresight/01_boshuyoko.html)). If there should be any differences between the original Call for Proposals in Japanese and its translation into English, the original Japanese text is valid.**
- (2) This “FY2017 Call for Proposals” provides the application guidelines on the JSPS side. Please consult with JSPS’s counterpart organizations about the application guidelines in the counterpart countries. (Please refer to “17, Information on China and Korea” for NSFC’s and NRF’s contact information.)**

**1. Program Objective**

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) carries out the A3 foresight program to create world-class research hubs within the Asian region, which by advancing world-class research will contribute to the solution of common regional problems, while fostering new generations of talented young researchers. With A3 research/education institutions at their core, these hubs carry out highly effective combinations of joint research activities, seminars and researcher exchanges.

After funding under the A3 Foresight Program ends, the core institutions are expected to continue functioning as world-class research hubs within the Asian region.

**2. Implementation Method**

Based on an agreement among JSPS, National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), and National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF), the three countries (A3) support this collaborative program under which their researchers carry out joint activities.

**3. Targeted Research Fields**

FY 2017: Molecular Imaging-based Precision Medicine (Subsequent fields will be chosen through consultation among JSPS, NSFC and NRF.)

#### 4. Eligibility

Japan-China-Korea trilateral collaborations

#### 5. Eligibility of Japanese Applicants

(1) Japanese universities and research institutions eligible to apply for this program as a core institution are those specified in Article 2 of the Procedure for the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (*Kakenhi*), issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). To qualify, an institution or department must possess sufficient research funding, equipment/facilities and human resources, and be capable of programmatically implementing the overall research project as its core institution.

Institutions specified as eligible in the Procedure for the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research:

- ① Universities and inter-university research institutions
- ② MEXT-affiliated institutions engaged in research
- ③ Colleges of technology
- ④ Institutions designated by the Minister of MEXT

(2) Each core institution, which plays a leading role in conducting research exchange in this project, must have one project principal investigator (PI). As a rule, s/he must be a full-time researcher or a researcher positioned as full time at the core institution. However, a researcher who is not employed full-time may qualify as a PI if his/her affiliated core institution guarantees the implementation of the project including the provision of an appropriate research environment (e.g. laboratory, equipment, personnel). In any case, the PI must be eligible to receive Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (*Kakenhi*). As the PI plays a vital role in carrying out the project plan, care should be taken not to appoint a person to the position who might lose his/her PI eligibility, or otherwise be unable to perform the PI's duties during the period of the project's implementation.

#### 6. Project Period

Start from August 2017 (Up to 5 years)

<From August 2017 through July 2022 (under FY2017 call)>

#### 7. Project Funding

(1) JSPS provides Japanese core institutions with the following funding: Up to ¥10 million per fiscal year (Total funding: up to ¥50 million over 5 years)

(2) JSPS covers the following major expenses of Japanese core institutions:

- ① International travel expenses

- ② Domestic travel expenses
- ③ Cost of consumable supplies
- ④ Honorariums
- ⑤ Others

(3) Provision Methods, etc.

- ① JSPS consigns the administration of projects to the Japanese core institution.
- ② The provision and use of funds is processed on a single fiscal-year basis.

※Please refer to Appendix 1 “Handling Expenses under JSPS A3 Foresight Program “ for more details.

8. Number of Projects Slated to Start in FY 2017

2 projects

9. Application Procedure at JSPS

(1) Application Documents:

Applicants submit to the head of their institution the below forms ① and ②. The institutions compile and submit the documents along with Form ③ to JSPS. JSPS receives application documents only from the institutions (not directly from individuals). After submitting the paper documents, the forms should be submitted as electronic data by using the file transfer system “proself”. JSPS will provide the more information on the system usage after the applying institutions submit their paper documents.

- ① Application Form A for Project under A3 Foresight Program (Form A: common among 3 countries)  
1 original (A4 size, with pages printed on one side), 8 copies (A4 size, with pages printed on both sides) and the electronic data.
- ② Application Form B for Project under A3 Foresight Program (Form B: Supplement for Japanese side)  
1 original (A4 size, with pages printed on one side), 8 copies (A4 size, with pages printed on both sides) and the electronic data.
- ③ Concerning Submission of Application Documents for A3 Foresight FY2017  
1 original (A4 size)

(2) Period for Acceptance:

Friday, 6 January to Wednesday, 18 January 2017 (No later than 17:30)

※Please note that applicants’ affiliated institutions may set earlier deadlines.

(3) The PIs on the China and Korea sides are to submit Form A (Common among 3 countries) to NSFC and NRF respectively. Please note an application from one country will be invalid if the contents of its Form A are different from the other two countries.

Though the application deadline is the same for all 3 countries, the details of the recruitment and implementation methods are set by each country and may differ. Please confirm the details through the PI in each country.

#### 10. Points to Keep in Mind

- (1) Counterpart core institutions should be a university or research institute in China and Korea.
- (2) This program supports projects of up to five years carried out through networks of collaborating organizations and researchers in hubs formed among core institutions in the A3 countries.
- (3) Please take care so that the content of Form A does not conflict with that of Form B. We will consider Form A to be correct if there are any conflicts.
- (4) Researchers eligible to receive JSPS financial support under this program are as follows:
  - ① Researchers employed at a university or research institute (In case of Japan, researchers eligible to apply for MEXT Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research.)
  - ② Postdoctoral researchers at universities or research institutes
  - ③ Researchers enrolled in a postgraduate course, either master's or doctoral course

Researchers only from A3 countries are eligible to participate in this program. (For detailed rules, researchers on the Chinese and Korean sides, please contact NSFC or NRF.)

(5) In principal, funding provided under this program is for implementing projects among the A3 countries. It is not for supporting travel by Japanese researchers to China/Korea or other countries to conduct only fieldwork or surveys.

(6) Under JSPS's international programs, researchers who are already representing a project in one of JSPS's program categories are not eligible to concurrently represent a project in another category with some exceptions. (The subject researchers are those responsible for implementing an already-selected project as its research representative, coordinator, chief seminar organizer or similar capacity. However, the heads of institutions and/or departments who represent the implementing organization are exempted.) For information on the approval of projects overlapping program categories, see Appendix 2 "Table, Overlapping Program Restrictions."

The restriction on projects overlapping programs is not meant to limit application by researchers who are already representing another JSPS project or who are in the process of applying for one. In the case of projects overlapping program categories, the representative must choose one or the other: The

existing project will be terminated if the representative is changed for the reason that s/he was selected for a new project. This should be borne in mind by those who are or will become the representative of a project under another program category. Once an application is submitted, the project's representative may not be changed.

(7) Japanese principal investigators who are now or have been supported under any of JSPS's international programs in the past 5 years are required to describe the objectives and/or results of those research activities and their relevance to the proposed project.

(8) If the applying institution is receiving or is scheduled to receive from another program's funding that is relevant to the proposed project, it must state so and clearly describe the relationship of that funding to the project. Note that JSPS will screen out duplicated funding in its review process.

#### 11. Screening Criteria in JSPS Reviews

Applications are screened from the following perspectives:

##### (1) Scientific/academic merit

- Degree to which the proposed project is recognized under global standards as being leading-edge and unique in the Molecular Imaging-based Precision Medicine field.
- Whether there is a clear need and value to implementing the project with the proposed counterpart institutions.
- Degree to which the collaboration between the core institutions in Japan and the counterpart countries can be expected to yield results of sufficiently high academic value to contribute to the establishment of a world-class research hub.
- Degree to which the project will build upon and expand the core institutions' past international research activities and accomplishments.

##### (2) Fostering young researchers

- Whether the project includes a program for honing the skills and expertise of young researchers.

##### (3) Creating an implementation framework on the Japan side

- Plans to build a world-class research hub under the A3 matrix should be strategically placed within the core institution's overall education and research program.
- Japanese core institutions should have in place on an institutional level a system for ensuring the ongoing implementation of the proposed project.
- The project should be capable of enlisting the participation of researchers in Japan who are qualified to build a world-class research hub.

- The project should be capable of continuing its operation as a world-class research hub after funding under this program has ended.

#### (4) Network building with Chinese and Korean core institutions

- The match-up of Japanese and counterpart institutions under the project should be one that holds good promise for sustained research collaboration.
- A clear-cut framework for implementing the project, such as a signed cooperative agreement, should be established between the core institutions.
- The project should have a clear vision of how to build a world-class research hub, and be expected to contribute to the continuous development of collaboration between the core institutions in the future.

#### (5) Appropriateness of research plan

- Whether the plan is sufficiently concrete to achieve the project objectives and its contents are highly attainable.
- Whether the research plan is practicable in terms of its fiscal and operational scope.

### 12. Selection Procedure

JSPS, NSFC and NRF conduct separate reviews of the applications they receive. Based on these review results, they make joint selections. The results will be sent to the applying institutions in or after July 2017.

### 13. Post-selection funding request to JSPS

Upon selection, JSPS will inform the applying institutions of the implementation procedures and send them the prescribed forms. Please submit the required documents, including implementation plan and funding request, to JSPS by the specified deadline.

### 14. Duty of Core Institutions, etc.

(1) Core institutions are to establish a homepage and proactively post information about the project both during and after the funding period. Though JSPS does not participate in negotiations regarding the rights to results yielded through the project's implementation, core institutions are to acknowledge JSPS's support by mentioning the A3 Foresight Program, when announcing the results.

(2) JSPS's International Program Committee carries out an interim evaluation of projects at their 3-year juncture and also conducts a post-project evaluation. Japanese core institutions should provide JSPS with all the information including project reports requested to perform these assessments. The amount of funding for the fiscal years after the interim evaluation will be based on its results.

## 15. Measures Against Misuse of Research Funds and Handling of Personal Information, etc.

(1) JSPS will take appropriate measures (e.g. terminate project/seminar, require reimbursement of part or all of allocated funds) in cases of misuse of research funds, improper practices (e.g. fabrication, falsification, plagiarization), unjustifiable acts (e.g. discrimination, harassment), or violation of laws. Please refer to Appendix 3 “Regarding the Appropriate Use of Research Funds” for more details.

(2) Researchers participating in research activities (excluding Seminars) under this program are obligated to complete before the activity starts a research ethics education course so as to prevent research misconduct.

(3) Personal information provided by applicants will be handled according to the “Act for the Protection of Personal Information Retained by Independent Administrative Institutions” and JSPS’s “Personal Information Protection Policy,” and be used solely for the purpose of implementing JSPS programs.

The names and affiliations of the PIs, project titles, budget, implementation period, annual implementation plans, reports and the evaluation results may be disclosed on JSPS’s website and in its publications.

## 16. Others

(1) JSPS does not support research with military objectives.

(2) JSPS does not bear responsibility for any accident, sickness or other such incident that may occur over the period of the project’s implementation.

(3) Core institution on each country is obligated to ensure the protection and proper distribution of intellectual property resulting from the A3 Foresight Program, in accordance with the laws and regulations of their countries. It is requested that the core institutions set certain rules on the attribution of intellectual property.

(4) Researchers are asked to make a positive effort to carry out their activities in a manner that makes their content and results easy to understand and explain.

(5) Along with the development of information communication technology (ICT) over recent years, scientific journals are using the Internet to provide free access to research papers. This “open access” trend is proliferating rapidly across the globe. Based on this fact, please take into account to consider to the extent possible the promotion of open access of paper that was written with the support of this project.

## 17. Information on China and Korea

China: NSFC's contact information:

Bureau of International Cooperation (国際合作局亜非処)

National Natural Science Foundation of China: NSFC

(Add) 83, Shuangqing-lu, Haidian-qu, Beijing, 100085, CHINA

(Tel) +86 (0)10 6232 6998

(Fax) +86 (0)10 6232 7004

Korea: NRF's contact information:

Global Exchange and Cooperation Team

Center for International Affairs

National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF)

(Add) 25, Heolleungno, Seocho-gu, Seoul , 137-748, KOREA

(Tel) +82 (0)2-3460-5704

(Fax) +82 (0)2-3460-5709

## 18. JSPS contact information

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)

<Address> 5-3-1 Kojimachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0083 Japan

<E-mail> foresight@jsps.go.jp

<TEL> +81 (0)3-3263-1826/1697

<URL> <http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-foresight/index.html>

## Handling Expenses under JSPS A3 Foresight Program

## 1. Implementation Method

Under the A3 Foresight Program, JSPS entrusts research projects to the Japanese PIs' affiliated core institutions, and concludes a consignment contract with the institutions.

## 2. Handling Expenses Incurred in Implementing the A3 Foresight Program

## 1) Preamble

In implementing this program, the cost burden is mutually shared among JSPS, NSFC and NRF, with each agency providing equal funds to cover the expense items. (For more information, please see the tables "Cost-sharing with Counterpart Countries" below.)

When expending funds, please be sure to do so within the parameters and rules provided in Section 2), "Use of Funds," below.

## 2) Use of Funds

The grant disbursed to the core institutions comprises "networking (research) funds" and a "consignment (administrative) fee." "Total funding" in the Call for Proposals is only the "networking funds."

## (1) Networking Funds

① Travel costs: Charged to the expense items "International Travel," and "Domestic Travel" on Form A:

They include international and domestic travel (for research, holding seminars, collecting documents, meetings to present research and results, etc.) for members on the Japanese side (transportation and lodging costs and per diem), and domestic travel (living expenses and domestic travel costs in Japan) for members on the China and Korean side.

② Consumable supplies: Costs are charged to "Seminars and Meetings" (as one of their expenses), "Equipment" and "Materials" on Form A:

This includes the cost of purchasing goods and supplies.

③ Honorariums: This cost is charged to "Seminars and Meetings" (as one of their expenses) and "Others" on Form A:

This includes remuneration to persons cooperating in the project's research and seminars (compiling materials, assisting in experiments, doing translations/reviews, providing expertise, distributing/retrieving questionnaires, collecting research documents, etc.)

④ Others: Charged to "Seminars and Meetings" and "Others" on Form A:

This includes costs for implementing projects not included in items ① to ③ (ex. printing, copying, photo developing, communication (stamps, phone), meeting expenses, rental fees (PC, car, experimental equipment, etc.), equipment repair costs, presentation of research results (cost of posting in journals, creating a website.)

⑤ Costs for which These Funds May Not be Applied

- i . Acquiring real estate
- ii . Maintaining the equipment of universities and their overseas offices (Office rental fees, water/utility fees, labor costs, etc.)
- iii . Purchasing capital equipment and office supplies usually provided by the university (Ex. desks, chairs, copy machine, PCs for administrative use, research equipment, etc.)
- iv . Repair costs of equipment/facilities incurred by accidents/disasters during project implementation
- v .Reparation for any accident, sickness or other such incident that occurs during project implementation
- vi . Costs to employ researchers, students and/or administrative staffs
- vii . Expenses with no direct relation to the project

⑥ Limitation on research expenditures

50% or more of the total project funding must be used for "travel." Regarding lodging, however, if it is judged to be more economical to contract lodging rather than pay per diem to individual researcher, the lodging cost may be charged to other expense items. If this will result in the "travel" expenses falling below 50%, JSPS should be consulted in advance.

(2) Consignment Fee

This is to cover administrative costs incurred in implementing a project. This fee is not to exceed 10% of the "networking funds" and is allocated separately from them. Please use it strategically and efficiently under the responsibility of the head of each institution.

(3) Consumption Tax

An amount equivalent to the national and local consumption taxes is included in the "networking funds."

## Basic rules of cost-sharing with counterpart countries

Under this program, the cost burden is mutually shared among JSPS, NSFC and NRF, with equal amount of funds provided by each agency to cover the expense items. The cost sharing method can be chosen by agreement between the PIs of the three countries from the following two patterns.

### (1) Travel and Maintenance

Please choose [Pattern1] or [Pattern2] from the below.

#### [Pattern 1]

The sending side covers the cost of overseas travel, living expenses (accommodations, meals and municipal transportation) and domestic travel in the counterpart country.

#### [Pattern 2]

The sending side covers the cost of overseas travel to the nearest airport of the destination; the receiving side covers living expenses (accommodations, meals and municipal transportation) and the domestic travel cost.

### (2) Seminars

- Seminars may be held in Japan, China and Korea, not in other countries.
- The cost of holding a seminar is to be covered by the host country.

### (3) Exchange between China and Korea

JSPS does not cover the cost of exchange between Chinese and Korean researchers.

Cost-sharing with China and Korea

[Pattern 1]

Institution		JSPS	Counterpart Agency
Cost Items			
Japan-side researchers	International airfare	○	X
	Maintenance in counterpart country	○	X
	Travel expenses within Japan	○	X
	Research grant	○	X
Other-side researchers	International airfare	X	○
	Maintenance in Japan	X	○
	Travel expenses in home country	X	○
	Research grant	X	○
Cost for holding seminars in Japan		○	X
Cost for holding seminars in counterpart country		X	○
Research equipment costs at core institution		X	X

[Pattern 2]

Institution		JSPS	Counterpart Agency
Cost Items			
Japan-side researchers	International airfare	○	X
	Maintenance in counterpart country	X	○
	Travel expenses within Japan	○	X
	Research grant	○	X
Other-side researchers	International airfare	X	○
	Maintenance in Japan	○	X
	Travel expenses in home country	X	○
	Research grant	X	○
Cost for holding seminars in Japan		○	X
Cost for holding seminars in counterpart country		X	○
Research equipment costs at core institution		X	X

**Table, Overlapping Program Restrictions**

This table shows the overlapping restrictions on a researcher who is already the representative of a project under one program category (Program A) and applies for an international project under another category (Program B).

Program B \ Program A	①	③	Joint Research Projects with SNSF (JRPs)	⑥	⑦	⑧	⑨	⑩
①Bilateral Programs (Joint Research Projects/Seminars)	△	△	△	×	×	×	×	△
②JSPS-NSF International Collaborations in Chemistry (ICC)	△	×	×	×	×	×	×	○
③JSPS-NSF Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)	△	—	×	×	×	×	×	○
⑤Open Research Area for the Social Sciences	△	×	×	×	×	×	×	○
⑥Japanese-German Graduate Externship	×	×	×	—	×	×	×	×
⑦JSPS Core-to-Core Program	×	×	×	×	—	×	×	×
⑧A3 Foresight Program	×	×	×	×	×	—	×	×
⑨Program for Advancing Strategic International Networks to Accelerate the Circulation of Talented Researchers (Program name was changed in FY2014 from 'Strategic Young Researcher Overseas Visits Program for Accelerating Brain Circulation.')	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
⑩FAPESP-JSPS Joint Research Workshop	△	○	○	×	×	×	×	—

## Notes□

○: The researcher may be the representative of two projects in overlapping programs

△: The researcher may not be the representative of two projects in overlapping programs if they are with the same counterpart country

×: The researcher may not be the representative of two projects in overlapping programs

## Regarding the Appropriate Use of Research Funds

Those who intend to apply for JSPS's international collaboration funding programs should bear in mind the following points.

### 1. Eliminating unjustifiable duplication and over-concentration of competitive funding

Based on the "Guidelines for Proper Execution of Competitive Funds" (September 9, 2005), JSPS takes measures to prevent unjustifiable duplication and over-concentration of research funding.

#### (1) Measures to prevent unjustifiable duplication

In cases when a researcher is receiving or has been selected to receive competitive funding from either the Japanese government or an independent administrative institution for essentially the same research content that s/he is applying or has been selected for under a program operated by JSPS's International Program Department (IPD) or by its Overseas Training Program Division, Human Resource Development Program Department (OTPD-HRDPD), his/her application may be removed from the screening process. If already selected, the selection may be cancelled or the amount of the grant or funding reduced.

Whereas a researcher may apply for competitive funding under another system while in the process of applying for a JSPS IPD or OTPD-HRDPD program, if selected for the other funding s/he must inform JSPS of such right away. If s/he neglects to do so, the selection decision may be cancelled or other action taken.

#### (2) Measures to prevent over-concentration of competitive funding

A selection decision may be cancelled or other action taken in cases when a researcher applying for a JSPS IPD or OTPD-HRDPD program also uses other competitive funds, even for different research content, is judged not to be making efficient or effective use of all his/her allocated funding.

To verify this, a researcher who changes the content of his/her application (such as the status of his/her application/selection for other funding) after submitting it to a JSPS IPD or OTPD-HRDPD program, must inform JSPS of such right away. If s/he neglects to do so, the selection decision may be cancelled or other action taken.

### 2. Measures against misconduct in research activities and misuse (etc.) of research funds

JSPS Regulation Number 19 (2006), "Measures against misconduct in research activities and misuse (etc.) of research funds" stipulates measures to assure impartiality in research activities, the proper management and execution of research funds, and the prevention of improper use of funding. It also provides disciplinary measures to be taken if a researcher funded under an

openly recruited JSPS IPD or OTPD-HRDPD program engages in specific research misconduct in his/her research activities or misuses (etc.) his/her research funds.

- (1) Here, “specific research misconduct” includes the fabrication, falsification or plagiarism of data or research findings, etc. contained in submitted research papers or other published research results, either willfully or due to gross neglect in the researcher’s basic duty to exercise proper diligence. “Misuse” includes the use of research funds, either purposefully or due to gross negligence, for purposes other than conducting the approved project or in a way that violates the terms or conditions of their allocation. “Misuse, etc.” includes the improper receipt of research funds based on intended misuse or falsified application filing. (Article 2)
- (2) The objects of measures taken against specific research misconduct and misuse (etc.) are as follows. (Article 15)
  - 1) Objects of measures against specific research misconduct
    - Researchers determined to have committed specific research misconduct
    - Authors determined to have responsibility for the content of research papers (etc.) related to research judged to involve specific research misconduct, even if the persons are not themselves determined to have committed the misconduct.
  - 2) Objects of measures against misuse
    - Researchers and their accomplices who engage in the misuse of funds
    - Researchers and their accomplices who received research funding based on falsified application filing or other improper means
    - Researchers who violate their obligation to properly manage their funds, even if they do not directly misuse them.

#### Disciplinary measures

- (1) In addition to cancelling the disbursement of the subject research funds, in the case of already-disbursed funds either part or all of the funds may be recalled. In determining the amount of the funds to be returned, consideration is given to severity of specific research misconduct, the degree of maliciousness, and the effect on the overall research project.
- (2) Projects will not be selected for funding if their application lists a researcher whom these measures are taken against as the principle investigator. Projects listing the researcher as a co-investigator will not be selected unless his/her name is removed.
- (3) Researchers whom these measures are taken against will not be allocated any research funding for all programs under JSPS’s jurisdiction for a set period of time.

JSPS provides information on the details of the disciplinary measures it takes against a researcher through MEXT to the administrators of competitive funding systems at MEXT and independent administrative agencies under its jurisdiction and to the other ministries that disburse competitive funds and independent administrative agencies under their jurisdiction. Regarding “specific research misconduct,” with both MEXT and other ministries the subjects of disciplinary measures are limited in some cases to applicants and participants of projects financed through their affiliated competitive funding systems.

In addition, JSPS will not allocate research funds to researchers whose application or participation has been restricted in the following (1)-(3) cases, during the specified period of subject disciplinary measures.

- (1) Competitive funding from Government Offices, Ministries, and independent administrative agencies.
- (2) Research funds, other than (1), to which the Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research (approved by the Minister on August 26, 2014) and the Guidelines for Managing and Auditing Public Research Funds at Research Institutions (Implementation Criteria) (approved by the Minister on February 15, 2007 and revised on February 18, 2014) are applicable.
- (3) Funding for basic operating expenses, stipulated in the Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research (approved by the MEXT Minister on August 26, 2014).

### **3. Handling of violations of related laws or regulations**

When the content of a grant application is falsified or a project is carried out in violation of pertinent laws, regulations or guidelines, JSPS may not allocate research funds and may cancel the selection of the project.

October 2015

International Program Department  
Overseas Training Program Division, Human Resource Development Program Department  
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Note:

This memo “Regarding the Appropriate Use of Competitive Funds” is an English translation of the official document in Japanese. If there should be any differences between the original document in Japanese and its translation into English, the original Japanese text is valid.