



Name of Company: Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd.
Name of Representative: Kazuo Kawamura, CEO, President and Representative Director
Code Number: 2269, 1st Section, Tokyo Stock Exchange

Meiji Group Outlines Long-term Environmental Vision Meiji Green Engagement For 2050 ~A Healthy Future. For People. For the Earth ~

Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd. (President and Representative Director, CEO: Kazuo Kawamura) is pleased to announce Meiji Green Engagement for 2050 (the Vision), our long-term environmental vision. The Vision is to identify long-term environmental issues and contribute to a sustainable society. Under the Vision, the Meiji Group will engage in global environmental issues as we pursue coexistence with nature.

The Meiji Group relies on the bounty of nature, including raw milk, cocoa, lactobacillus and microorganisms. We believe it is our duty to live in harmony with the environment and coexist with nature. However, issues such as climate change threaten the sustainability of global environment. The biodiversity provides us the bounty of nature we enjoy, now it is in a crisis. To respond to such crisis we formulated a long-term environmental vision. We are committed to achieving coexistence with nature by engaging in global environmental issues.

The Meiji Green Engagement for 2050 consists of four activity domains, Climate Change, Water Resources, Resource Recycling, and Pollution Prevention, and outlines specific goals for each domain.

We cannot achieve these goals by ourselves. We will cooperate with various stakeholders to achieve the goals outlined in the Vision.



Concept image for Meiji Green Engagement for 2050

Goals for each domain are as outlined below:

Climate Change

Society has become more concerned about the impact of global warming on the intensity of natural disasters and damage to biodiversity. Businesses are being asked to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help build a decarbonized society. The Paris Agreement, an international framework for addressing climate change, requires efforts to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial revolution levels.

The Meiji Group aims to further mitigate its impact on the global environment, considering the aspirational target of the Paris Agreement to keep the temperature increase below 1.5 degrees Celsius. Accordingly, we have set a goal to become carbon neutral by 2050, eliminating all greenhouse gas emissions throughout our entire supply chain.

Targets

- Eliminate CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions throughout our entire supply chain by 2050 (carbon neutral)
- Use 100% renewable energy in facilities by 2050

Water

The world's population is estimated to reach 9.7 billion by 2050*1. Consequently, the demand for water is likely to increase by some 55%*2 to keep up with the demand due to increase in food production and economic activities as a result of population growth. A total of more than 40%*2 of the global population may lose adequate access to enough water due to climate change and the resulting chronic water shortages.

Water is a finite resource. To ensure the sustainability of this limited resource, the Meiji Group aims to become water-neutral. To accomplish this goal, we will engage in initiatives that include reducing water use intensity per sales unit by half and cultivating water resources.

Source:

- *1 United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. World Population Prospects 2019 (Medium Variant)
- *2 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). OECD Environmental Outlook to 2050

Targets

- Reduce water use intensity per unit of sales by 50% by 2050 compared with FYE March 2018
- Restore 100% of the water used as raw material for products by 2050 (water-neutral)
- · Resolve water risk in and around facilities and where we procure raw materials

Circular Economy

Although the natural capital of the earth is finite, we have wasted and discarded them for a long period. These negative activities have led to climate change, deforestation, marine plastic pollution, and numerous other environmental issues. The world must improve the sustainability of natural capital. Because the Meiji Group enjoys the bounty of nature and uses natural capital in products and packaging, we must transition to a circular economy.

To achieve this goal, we should minimize the usage of natural capital by recycling and reusing resources, not to mention achieving zero waste. We will take on the challenge of reducing our environmental impact as close to zero as possible all the way through product design to disposal.

Targets

- · Achieve zero waste in the manufacturing process
- · Use recycled materials in containers and packaging to minimize the use of new natural capital

Pollution Prevention

As a result of prioritizing economic growth over the global environment, modern society suffers from air, water, and chemical pollution. As we are breathing polluted air and consuming contaminated food in our daily lives, the health risks are increasing.

The Meiji Group delivers health to the people in the world, and we believe we can build a world that doesn't suffer from pollution. Thus, we are committed to achieve zero pollution throughout the Meiji Group supply chain.

Targets

- Strive to achieve zero pollution caused by chemical substances originating from our business activities
- Strive to resolve environmental pollution-related issues throughout our supply chain

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