

# Corporate Governance of NTT DATA Corporation

June 18, 2020

## Chapter 1 Basic Views

### 1. Basic Views

The NTT DATA Group aims to establish a business structure that produces stable profits through continuous growth by carrying out the mission to create new systems and values with information technology for a more affluent and harmonious society, and also by forecasting future trends to swiftly and accurately respond to the changing market environment, client needs and the cutting-edge technology trend.

Under this management philosophy, the NTT DATA Group has set the Medium-Term Management Plan from FY2019 to FY2021 to aim for “profitable global growth with consistent belief and courage to change.”

With the “consistent belief,” under the basic concept of “shape the future society with our clients,” we will promote ESG management with the aim of improving corporate value sustainably by contributing to a society through co-creation with clients as well as to efforts to realize a society where everyone is motivated to work through our corporate activities including the work style innovations based on the “Long-Term Relationships” with clients, the source of the group’s competitive advantage.

In addition, with “courage to change,” we will implement three strategies: “Expand global digital offerings,” “Deliver greater value to clients based on regional needs,” and “Unleash our employee’s potential that maximize organizational strengths.” Also, we will maximize value for our clients by further accelerating digital transformation and enhancing our global synergy.

The NTT DATA Group will play an active role in overcoming the various issues that face society through the appropriate provision of various information services by the Group’s officers and employees based on common sense, as well as in complying with laws and contracts at home and abroad and in respecting international standards including those of human rights.

Under these concepts, NTT DATA is working on the following basic policies in accordance with the purpose of each principle of the Corporate Governance Code to ensure that corporate governance will effectively function: (1) to ensure transparency and soundness in business management; (2) to achieve appropriate and swift decision making and business execution; and (3) to implement compliance thoroughly. The purpose of working on such basic policies is to meet the various expectations of stakeholders, including shareholders, investors, clients, business partners and employees, and to maximize enterprise value.

NTT DATA has transitioned to a company with audit and supervisory committee according to the resolution of the 32nd Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholder on June 17, 2020, in order to further strengthen its supervisory function of the Board of Directors and corporate governance, and to enhance

the soundness and efficiency of its management. Also, in order to further enhance the governance and reflect diverse knowledge its management, NTT DATA has appointed 5 independent outside directors, which makes the ratio thereof in the Board of Directors (consisting of 15 directors) not less than one-third.

(1) Ensuring transparency and soundness in business management

NTT DATA strives to disclose information in a just, fair and timely manner in accordance with the “Disclosure Policy,” based on the “Disclosure Guidelines.” Such disclosure is important in that it enables the market to appraise NTT DATA appropriately. For this reason, NTT DATA holds a meeting for explanation of financial results when financial results are announced quarterly, and often holds other meetings for domestic and international investors and analysts, in order to ensure transparency in business management. To reinforce the function of supervising and auditing the fairness in business execution, NTT DATA has assigned outside directors and directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee to ensure soundness in its business management through supervision by the Board of Directors and audit/supervision by the audit and supervisory committee. NTT DATA also pays attention to maximize the profit of its shareholders when transacting business with NTT, Inc., the direct parent company, and NIPPON TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CORPORATION, the ultimate parent company, and the companies of the NTT Group.

(2) Achievement of appropriate and swift decision making and business execution

Decision making at NTT DATA is carried out under the supervision of the Board of Directors in accordance with “Authority Rules,” which stipulate the responsibility and authority of the President and CEO, Senior Executive Vice Presidents, officers responsible for regions and segments and heads of each department. For smooth and swift decision making and supervision in its business operations, NTT DATA has established the “Corporate Management Committee,” which is made up of the President and CEO, Senior Executive Vice Presidents, officers responsible for regions and segments and other heads of important section or group, and has prior discussions at such “Corporate Management Committee” for effective deliberations about the items to be resolved at the Board of Directors including outside directors. NTT DATA also has transitioned to a company with audit and supervisory committee so that all or part of important decision makings could be delegated to directors through resolution by the Board of Directors according to the rules of the Articles of Incorporation. In addition, NTT DATA pursues appropriate and swift decision making and business execution by placing Senior Vice Presidents in charge of business execution, assigning most of the authority relating to business execution to such Senior Vice President from directors, with each Section or Group executing business operations independently and responsibly in accordance with the “Organizational Regulations.”

(3) Thorough implementation of compliance

NTT DATA is determined to operate its business in accordance with high ethical standards as well as compliance by setting up “Global Compliance Policy,” targeted at all officers and employees of NTT DATA Group, in order to clarify its basic policy and specific behavior guidelines relating to corporate ethics. To make such business operation effective, NTT DATA consider it necessary to implement a continuous educational campaign to promote the awareness of such ethics and compliance. Therefore, it has been holding training sessions on compliance targeted at employees and conducting employees’ attitude surveys. Aiming for more openness in its corporate culture, NTT DATA has placed “the Whistle Line,” which is a cross-sectional internal reporting system in the Group, receiving any declaration from the inside and the outside of the company, whether anonymous or named. NTT DATA ensures that any declarer to the reception desk through “the Whistle Line” is not unfavorably treated because of his or her declaration.

## **Chapter 2 Securing Rights and Equal Treatment of Shareholders**

### **2. Shareholders’ Meeting**

NTT DATA recognizes that the Shareholders’ Meeting is the highest decision-making body in our company, protects the rights of shareholders, considers the execution of rights, and attempts to secure substantial equality for every shareholder.

- (1) When the exercise status of voting rights is confirmed and there is a resolution with a certain amount of opposition votes, the causes will be analyzed. Based on the cause analysis results, the need to hold dialogues with shareholders and to take other measures will be considered as appropriate.
- (2) The way to send a notice of convocation early will be considered every time in order to ensure sufficient time is secured for considering the resolutions. Information stated in the notice of convocation is disclosed by electric measures during the time between the day of conducting the Board of Directors resolution and the day of sending the notice.
- (3) The date of the Shareholders’ Meeting will be set outside the so-called concentrated days.
- (4) The exercise of voting rights via the internet will be enabled for individual and corporate investors for facilitating the exercise of voting rights by shareholders.
- (5) The notice of convocation of the Shareholders’ Meeting will be translated into English.

### **3. Basic Strategy for Capital Policy**

NTT DATA holds a basic policy of applying the cash acquired by our business activities to business investment for mid- and long-term profit development.

With regards to the shareholders’ return, based on a comprehensive assessment of the balance with the expenditures for business investment, technology development and maintenance and reinforcement of financial strength, and with the dividends, NTT DATA proposes a stable return to shareholders. For determining the amount of a dividend, NTT DATA values the maintenance of the consolidated cash flow dividend payout ratio (\*) in the mid- and long-term.

\* Consolidated cash flow dividend payout ratio :

Total amount of dividends/ (net income attributable to shareholders of NTT DATA <sup>(note)</sup> + depreciation cost + loss on retirement of fixed assets – capital investment)

Note: In JGAAP adopted period, we use “net income attributable to owners of parent (adjusted for goodwill amortization)” instead.

#### **4. Policies concerning cross-shareholdings and execution of voting rights of cross-held shares, etc.**

NTT DATA’s purpose of cross-shareholdings is to maintain the medium- to long-term relationship, to expand the trading volume and to create synergy with clients and business partners by holding shares issued by them. It is our policy to hold such shares if holding them is likely to enhance NTT DATA’s enterprise value and lead to profit for our shareholders.

NTT DATA assesses the meaningfulness of cross-shareholding for each share every year, in a comprehensive manner, from the viewpoint of whether benefits and risks from holding are the shares commensurate with capital costs and in line with the purposes of holding: to maintain the medium- to long-term relationship, to expand trading volume, to create synergy with clients and business partners and so forth and reports to the Board of Directors, then decides whether to hold or sell such shares. In FY2019, as a result of this assessment, we have confirmed the adequacy of holding for all the listed shares held. If it proves to be inadequate to hold a share due to changes in situations, NTT DATA will take measures including reduction of the number of shares.

With regard to standards for ensuring the exercise of its proper voting right in relation to cross-shareholdings, NTT DATA judges in a comprehensive manner whether the exercise of its voting right in relation to cross-shareholdings will lead to continuous growth and improvement in the medium- to long-term enterprise value of an issuing company. For example, NTT DATA will vote against a proposal if it has a negative impact on the financial soundness of the issuing company or the company’s illegal action is discovered. NTT DATA considers that such comprehensive judgment will enhance its own enterprise value and medium- to long-term profit for its shareholders and investors.

#### **5. Protection of minority shareholders and transactions between related stakeholders**

With regards to the relationship between NTT DATA and our parent companies, NTT DATA’s basic policies shall respect each other’s autonomy and independence while cooperating, and shall adequately conduct transactions, etc., between the companies complying with the laws and regulations.

When conducting transactions with the parent companies and NTT Group companies, NTT DATA considers the maximization of profit for NTT DATA’s entire shareholders. Specifically, NTT DATA confirms the rationality and adequacy of transactions, and gives approval in accordance with “Authority Rules” after preliminary screening, with the Legal Sector considering the opinions of the third-party specialists when necessary. When NTT DATA conducts a business transaction with those companies, the transaction condition and its determination method are the same as those of other business partners.

NTT DATA makes decisions on important contracts concluded with the parent companies after legal examination by the Legal Department. Particularly for important contracts, we make it mandatory that they are approved by the Board of Directors and strive to ensure decision making independent of the parent companies. In addition, the Board of Directors consists of 15 directors, including 5 independent outside directors. At present, independent outside directors account for not less than one-third of all directors.

With respect to transactions involving a conflict of interest stipulated in Companies Act, including direct transactions between NTT DATA and its own individual directors and transactions between NTT DATA and other organizations or companies represented by directors of NTT DATA, it stipulates that prior approval is necessary in accordance with its “Regulations of the Board of Directors.” Such approval from the Board of Directors is first examined by the Legal Department and then looked into in terms of appropriateness and economic practicality, including whether the said transaction is in the same condition as general trade terms. After obtaining such approval, the status of the said transaction is regularly reported to the Board of Directors.

### Chapter 3 Collaboration with stakeholders

#### 6. Philosophy and vision

The NTT DATA Group has established our management philosophy and vision as “Our Way.”

“Our Way” is based on the corporate philosophy showing our Group’s mission to create new systems and values with information technology for a more affluent and harmonious society,” and consists of the “Employee Creed,” “Group Vision” and “Values” showing the pursuit of our mission in a changing business environment, and the “Global Compliance Policy” showing the criteria that guide our daily actions with regard to ethics, laws, regulations, etc..

#### ■Our Way



## 7. Correspondence to the issues on Sustainability

NTT DATA has raised ESG management in the medium-term management plan since FY2019, and strives to sustainably enhance its corporate value by contributing to the achievement of SDGs with social contributions through business and corporate activities. The Company has also established 12 new material ESG issues to particularly focus on. Each department will establish a goal centered on these material ESG issues and accelerate actions and management to achieve the goal.

List of material ESG issues of the NTT DATA Group

Material ESG Issues※	Means to resolve issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>①Offering social infrastructure and business-category-specific solutions based on advanced technologies</li> <li>②Build and ensure stable management/operation of IT infrastructure</li> <li>③Securing and develop IT human resources (for our employees)</li> <li>④Promote workstyle innovation</li> <li>⑤Promote diversity and inclusion</li> <li>⑥Promote IT education (for community)</li> <li>⑦Respond to climate change</li> <li>⑧Ensure information security</li> <li>⑨Protect data privacy</li> <li>⑩Respond to disaster risks</li> <li>⑪Ensure compliance</li> <li>⑫Promote responsible supply chain</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Social contribution through business</b></p> <p>Resolve each Material ESG Issue for society (clients) through our services and solutions.</p> <div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px; margin-top: 20px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Social contribution through corporate activities</b></p> <p>Resolve each Material ESG Issue of our own in business operations.</p> </div>

## 8. Diversity

In order to match diverse social needs and sustainable growth, NTT DATA raises “diversity and inclusion” as one of the important management strategies for the global competition, and aims to create new enterprise value with the two core concepts of “advancing diverse human resources” and “work style innovation.” To realize these aims, the NTT DATA Group promotes development of an organization which creates high value, not only enhancing various systems, but also promoting work-life balance for each employee to work dynamically and bring his/her capability maximum.

## 9. Whistle-blowing system

NTT DATA has set our sights on becoming a reliable company and raised the basic policy to conduct sound business activities by establishing corporate ethics.

For sound management, we established a whistle-blowing system to receive information from inside and outside the company whether anonymous or named to ensure a channel of communication which is different from the ordinary execution of business, and established a system to ensure that declarer who made those reports through the whistle-blowing system will not receive disadvantageous treatment for having made such reports.

## **10. Roles of Corporate Pension Funds as Asset Owners**

Based on the fact that management of corporate pension funds affects the stability of employee assets, and also has an effect on the company's financial condition, NTT Group is working to allocate and develop personnel with the necessary experience and qualifications to be able to conduct monitoring and other appropriate activities with respect to the organization in charge of the corporate pension.

## **Chapter 4 Appropriate information disclosure**

### **11. Enhancement of information disclosure**

With regard to the management of information relating to important matters, NTT DATA pays attention to timely, just and fair disclosure of the information relating to NTT DATA Group by having established "Policy (Rules) for Information Security," "Disclosure Guidelines," and "Rules for Prevention of Insider Trading" for appropriate operations.

NTT DATA has opened an office specializing in IR (the Investor Relations Office). It has also set up the Disclosure Committee, which is made up of the President and CEO, the Head of Finance Department and also the heads of all significant organizations which are required to join by the Head of Finance etc. The said Committee is operated by the Investor Relations Office and has regular discussion on the formation of the disclosure policy relating to, and disclosure of, the following management information:

- (1) Quantitative information, such as the Medium-term Management Plan, the background to the formation of the Management Plan, the trend of clients and solutions by area, and the business scale of individual businesses;
- (2) Qualitative information, such as the Medium-term Management Policy, the policy for returning profit to shareholders (including dividend policy), and the trend in each industry; and
- (3) Any information considered important for investors etc. other than (1) and (2).

The timely disclosure of important management information is made public through the stock exchange on which the shares of NTT DATA are listed, the press, and NTT DATA's website after consultation at the Corporate Management Committee and determination by the President and CEO.

## **Chapter 5 Corporate governance structure**

### **12. Roles and responsibility of Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors recognizes the stewardship responsibility to shareholders and promotes the structure development based on the basic concepts of corporate governance in order to grow sustainable the Company and increase the Medium to Long-term enterprise value.

The Board of Directors determines any matter stipulated in the "Regulations of the Board of Directors," including matters stipulated by law and important matters relating to management of the company and the Group, and supervises the performance of directors' duties by regularly receiving

reports on the status of such performance from directors.

The Board of Directors grants to NTT DATA's management the authority to determine business based on the direction of the management strategy and the management plan formulation discussed in the Board of Directors.

Specifically, NTT DATA has placed Senior Vice Presidents specializing in and responsible for business execution to ensure that the Board of Directors properly implements important decision making and supervises the execution, and has been expediting decision making by granting most of the authority to engage in business execution to such Senior Vice Presidents from directors. Also, in order for the President and CEO to make proper decisions about the basic policy of business and any other important matters relating to management, the "Corporate Management Committee," which is made up of the President and CEO, the Senior Executive Vice President, officers responsible for regions and segments and heads of each section or group, has been established for smooth and swift decision making and supervision relating to business operations.

Further, the Board of Directors organizes the structures concerning compliance, risk management and financial reports and other internal control systems defined by the laws and regulations, and monitors whether their operations are being conducted effectively.

### **13. Appointment policy of independent directors**

To strengthen the supervising function of business execution, NTT DATA appoints and nominates as independent directors personnel who do not have any possibility of causing a conflict of interest with general shareholders. In principle, plural independent directors are to be appointed.

### **14. Independence standards**

NTT DATA designates outside directors who satisfy the following conditions, in addition to the criteria for independence stipulated by Tokyo Stock Exchange, Inc., as its independent directors.

A person who does not fall under any of the following items for the most recent 3 financial years:

- (1) A business executor of NTT DATA's business partner with a trading amount exceeding the standards set forth by NTT DATA (\*1);
- (2) A business executor of NTT DATA's lender with an amount of lending exceeding the standards set forth by NTT DATA (\*2);
- (3) An individual providing specialized services, such as a consultant, accountant or lawyer, who has received from NTT DATA any money or other property profit that is worth 10 million yen or more per year other than executive remuneration in any year of the most recent 3 financial years;  
or
- (4) A business executor of an organization that has received contributions exceeding NTT DATA's standards (\*3). Even if a person falls under any of the conditions from (1) through (4) as stipulated above, any reason for judging that such person still has independence is required to be explained



and disclosed when such person is appointed as an independent director.

- \*1 NTT DATA's business partner with a trading amount exceeding the standards set forth by NTT DATA refers to a business partner whose trading amount with NTT DATA is 2% of NTT DATA's non-consolidated annual sales or larger in any financial year out of the most recent 3 financial years.
- \*2 NTT DATA's lender with an amount of lending exceeding the standards set forth by NTT DATA refers to a lender who lends to NTT DATA 2% or a larger percentage of NTT DATA's total assets in any financial year out of the most recent 3 financial years.
- \*3 An organization that has received contributions exceeding the standards set forth by NTT DATA refers to an organization that has received contributions from NTT DATA that exceed 10 million yen per year or 2% of the total annual revenue of such organization, whichever is larger in amount, in any financial year out of the most recent 3 financial years.

#### **15. Having independent directors involved and receiving their advice by setting up an independent advisory committees**

Although NTT DATA has not set up an independent advisory committee such as a voluntary nomination committee or remuneration committee, in advance of the resolution by the Board of Directors, we hold briefing sessions for independent outside directors and directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee. This is to explain about proposals to a general meeting of shareholders, including remunerations for management executives and the appointment of candidates for directors, and receive appropriate advice from them. For these reasons, we believe that independence and objectivity of the functions and accountability of the Board of Directors concerning these matters is fully assured.

#### **16. Constitution, appointment and qualification of the Board of Directors / Policy and procedures for dismissal of senior management**

The size of the Board of Directors is in direct proportion to the scale of business, and it is composed with consideration of having diversity<sup>(\*)</sup> from various terms including internationality, and the balance of specializations.

The candidates for directors who are not members of the audit and supervisory committee have been appointed from personnel who have broad perspectives and experience and can contribute to the development of the entire Group, excel in management ability and leadership, and are sophisticated in business management and energetic, for improvement in the enterprise value of the entire NTT DATA Group.

The procedures for appointment candidates for directors are to be carried out as follows: The backgrounds of candidates are first explained to the parent companies, independent outside directors, and directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee prior to the Board of Directors;

then the parent companies, independent outside directors, and directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee provide appropriate advice and the Board of Directors adopts the resolution, and such resolution is referred to at a shareholders' meeting. Besides the above, we appropriately have the audit and supervisory committee exercise the right to state its opinions about the nomination of candidates for directors who are not members of the audit and supervisory committee.

Directors have allotted the time and effort necessary to fulfill their roles and responsibilities in carrying out the tasks imposed on them as directors, and therefore NTT DATA considers that the number of positions they are holding is appropriate. The status of holding other positions at other listed companies by directors is disclosed on business reports and the reference documents for shareholders' meetings.

The policy and procedures for dismissing a senior management are as follows: If a management executive is found not to perform his or her role well, the reasons of the dismissal is explained in advance to the parent companies, independent outside directors, and directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee prior to the Board of Directors; then the parent companies, independent outside directors, and directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee provide appropriate advice and the Board of Directors adopts the resolution, and such resolution is referred to at a shareholders' meeting. Besides the above, we appropriately have the audit and supervisory committee exercise the right to state its opinions about the nomination.

\*Including elements such as gender, race, ethnicity, and cultural background.

## **17. Director remuneration**

NTT DATA explains the policy for determining the remuneration for directors who are not members of the audit and supervisory committee and composition/standard of such remuneration to the parent companies, independent outside directors, and directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee, and upon receiving appropriate advice from them, determines the amount of remuneration to such extent as resolved at a shareholders' meeting at the Board of Directors.

The remuneration for directors who are not members of the audit and supervisory committee (excluding outside directors) is composed of monthly remuneration and bonuses. The amount of monthly remuneration is determined and provided in accordance with the responsibility and extent of the role of his or her position. Bonuses are determined and provided with the operating income of the relevant period, etc. as performance indices in consideration of the extent of the achievement. To assess business performance, NTT DATA has used financial goals under the Medium-term Management Plan and others. Particularly, we have applied operating income, ROIC, overseas net sales, overseas operating income margin, capital expenditures, and the number of B2B2X projects (\*) for the assessment of business performance. For the remuneration of full-time directors who reside in Japan, to reflect the medium- to long-term performance, each director is required to purchase the company's stock through the officers' shareholding association by paying a certain amount of money from their

monthly remuneration and bonus. Each director is also required to retain all the shares purchased by himself or herself during his or her term of office. As a result, the remuneration including the bonus is composed of “fixed remuneration and performance-linked remuneration at a ratio of about 7:3” if the company achieves a normal performance result. Moreover, regarding the remuneration standard for the President and Chief Executive Officer, NTT DATA seeks advice from independent outside directors and members of the audit & supervisory committee. However, directors who engage in business execution at consolidated subsidiaries outside Japan receive deferred compensation linked to business results from subsidiaries to which they belong.

Furthermore, NTT DATA appropriately has the audit and supervisory committee exercise the right to state its opinions about remunerations.

The company examines increasing the percentage of performance-linked remuneration such as stock compensation in order to raise directors’ awareness about the achievement of goals of the Medium-Term Management Plan, sustainable growth, and medium- to long-term improvement of corporate value.

Outside directors who are not audit and supervisory committee members are paid only monthly remuneration, unrelated to business performance in order to ensure a high degree of independence.

Remunerations and others for directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee are determined based on deliberations of directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee. To ensure a high degree of independence, the members receive only monthly remunerations that are not linked to business results.

\*A business for supporting and promoting the businesses for clients of other companies with the number of projects in the digital domain set as an indicator.

## **18. Operation and evaluation of Board of Directors**

The meeting of Board of Directors is held in monthly basis and the matters to be deliberated is prepared in advance with no limitation in the number of items for consideration, the length of time for consideration, and achieve the revitalization of consideration.

Additionally, the Board of Directors started to conduct self-assessment/analysis for its effectiveness in FY2016 for the purpose of improving the function of the Board of Directors and maximizing the enterprise value.

We will assess the effectiveness of the Board of Directors on a continuous basis and make efforts to enhance its functions.

## **19. Roles and responsibilities of the audit and supervisory committee**

The audit and supervisory committee recognize the stewardship responsibility to shareholders, audit the executions of duties by directors as an independent institution, and execute duties without prejudice of the Company’s and shareholders’ interest.

The audit and supervisory committee closely exchange information through the information meeting with the representative directors and outside directors.

**20. Constitution, appointment and qualification of the audit and supervisory committee**

- (1) The audit and supervisory committee shall consist of 4 members or less according to the provisions in the articles of incorporation, including persons who have expert knowledge.
- (2) The directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee of NTT DATA shall be appointed by the following policies and processes:
  - 1) Candidates for directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee shall be appointed from human resources who are expected to conduct audits and supervision based on his/her viewpoint of specialized experience and knowledge, etc. Further, with the objective of fair audit and supervision of execution of duties by the directors who are not members of the audit and supervisory committee, the majority of directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee shall be appointed from outside directors in accordance with the Companies Act.
  - 2) Proposal for the appointment of directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee shall be resolved by the Board of Directors after discussion and approval of the audit and supervisory committee of which majority consists of outside directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee, and shall be referred to the Shareholders' Meeting.
  - 3) Directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee spend time and labor required to perform their appropriate roles and duties for the operations of directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee, and therefore, the number of their concurrent posts shall be within reasonable extent. Concurrent posts of directors who are members of the audit and supervisory committee at different listed companies are disclosed in the business report and the reference documents for the Shareholders' Meeting.

**21. Operation of the audit and supervisory committee**

In order to perform their roles and duties, the audits and the audit & supervisory Board shall increase their awareness of management issues from the viewpoint of general management, collect information through daily communication with directors and management executives, and conduct business audits and accounting audits cooperating with the Internal Audit Department and utilizing outside specialists.

**22. Training policy, etc. of the directors and audits**

Directors and audits are appointed from those who have broad knowledge about business, financial affairs and organizations, etc., and they are trained if necessary. After taking office, the training program targeted at directors and audits continues with a wide range of training sessions on market trends and economic and social issues at home and abroad.

### **23. Independent audit**

- (1) NTT DATA recognizes that the accounting audit plays the important role of securing the reliability and transparency of the Company's management from the shareholders by conducting the audit of financial documents, and adequately collaborates to secure appropriate audit.
- (2) The audit and supervisory committee shall receive the report of the audit plan and interim and final audit results from the independent audits, interview and confirm the quality management system concerning the independent audits' audit, as well as exchange opinions with independent audits for enhancing cooperation.

In addition to the above, concerning the audit activities by the independent audits, the audit & supervisory Board shall establish the independent audits' evaluation/selection standard from the viewpoint of independence, specialty, and appropriateness/adequacy; in addition, the audits shall not correspond with the removal conditions defined by the Companies Act, and shall evaluate their activities' adequacy. Further, the Board of Directors shall receive the evaluation results of independent audits from the management leadership and shall select/evaluate independent audits appropriately as the audit and supervisory committee.

- (3) The Board of Directors and the audit and supervisory committee shall take necessary measures for securing high-quality and appropriate audits.

## **Chapter 6 Dialogue with shareholders**

### **24. Dialogue with shareholders**

NTT DATA promotes constructive communication with shareholders and investors. To contribute to continuous growth and improvement in the Medium-to Long-term enterprise value of NTT DATA, our policy takes the following measures:

- (1) Appointment of a director in charge of communication with shareholders

To achieve constructive communication with shareholders and investors, a director responsible for Investor Relations (IR) is appointed.

- (2) Policy for systematic cooperation among internal offices

NTT DATA has opened an office specializing in IR (the Investor Relations Office). It has also set up the Disclosure Committee, which is made up of the President and CEO, the Head of Finance Department and also the heads of all significant organizations which are required to join by the Head of Finance etc. The said Committee is operated by the Investor Relations Office and has regular discussion on the formation of the disclosure policy relating to, and disclosure of, the following management information:

- 1) Quantitative information, such as the Medium-term Management Plan, the background to the formation of the Management Plan, the trend of clients and solutions by area, and the business scale of individual businesses;
- 2) Qualitative information, such as the Medium-term Management Policy, the policy for

returning profit to shareholders (including dividend policy), and the trend in each industry;  
and

3) Any information considered important for investors etc. other than 1) and 2).

(3) Efforts for the sufficiency of conversational procedure except for individual interviews

NTT DATA has established and disclosed “Disclosure Policy” and holds the briefing sessions on company overview and strength, growth strategy, and shareholders return etc.

(4) Policy for effective feedback on shareholders’ opinions and concerns

NTT DATA has established an office specializing in IR under the direct control of the President and CEO, and properly reports on feedback such as the opinions or concerns of shareholders and investors to the Board of Directors, a regular meeting participated in by the President and CEO etc., and the Disclosure Committee. NTT DATA also creates opportunities for NTT DATA’s directors and Senior Vice Presidents to directly communicate with shareholders and investors to understand their opinions and concerns.

(5) Policy for the management of inside information in communication

NTT DATA has established the provisions for handling the matters of the company’s significant information before disclosed in such as “Rules for Prevention of Insider Trading” and “Policy (Rules) for Information Security,” and strictly control the information, and also provides the periodical training to the all employees based on our same rules, and strive to prevent the occurrence of insider trading.

Also NTT DATA has established the “Disclosure Guidelines” striving to provide timely and fair disclosure of information with the purpose of contribution for the shareholders and investors’ fair and appropriate investment decision, and disclose the information with the purpose of clarifying our position toward the information disclosure to the outside by establishing and disclosing “Disclosure Policy.”