

Chapter 1 Government Bonds (JGBs)

1 Primary Market for Government Bonds

JGBs for financing fiscal expenditure are issued in various types, depending on their applicable legal grounds and bond features. This section explains how JGBs are issued.

(1) JGBs by Legal Grounds of Issuance

JGBs can be divided into two main categories: General Bonds, and Fiscal Investment and Loan Program Bonds (FILP Bonds). While the government mainly relies on tax revenue to redeem General Bonds, the redemption and the interest payments on FILP Bonds are covered by the collection of Fiscal Loan receivable. However, both General Bonds and FILP Bonds are jointly issued as JGBs with the same interest rate and maturity. They are the same financial instruments and are treated in the same manner on the market as well.

Fig.2-1 JGBs by Legal Grounds of Issuance

JGBs	General Bonds	Construction Bonds
		Special Deficit-Financing Bonds
		Reconstruction Bonds
		Refunding Bonds
	Fiscal Investment and Loan Program Bonds (FILP Bonds)	

A. General Bonds

General Bonds consist of Construction Bonds, Special Deficit-Financing Bonds, Reconstruction Bonds and Refunding Bonds. Construction Bonds and Special Deficit-Financing Bonds are issued under the General Account and the revenue from their issuance is reported as the government revenue of the General Account.

On the other hand, Reconstruction Bonds are issued under the Special Account for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Refunding Bonds under the Special Account of Government Debt Consolidation Fund and the revenue from their issuance is reported as the government revenue of each Special Account.

a. Construction Bonds

Article 4(1) of the Public Finance Act prescribes that annual government expenditure has to be covered in principle by annual government revenue generated from other than government bonds or borrowings. But as an exception, a proviso of the Article allows the government to raise money through bond issuance or borrowings for the purpose of public works, capital subscription or lending. Bonds governed by this proviso of Article 4(1) are called “Construction Bonds.”

The Article prescribes that the government can issue Construction Bonds within the amount approved by the Diet, and the ceiling amount is provided under the general provisions of the General Account budget(👉).

👉 When intending to get approval for this ceiling amount, the government submits to the Diet a redemption plan that shows the redemption amount and the redemption periods for each fiscal year for reference.

b. Special Deficit-Financing Bonds

When estimating a shortage of government revenue despite the issuance of Construction Bonds, the government can issue government bonds based on a special act (☞①) to raise money for the purpose of other than public works and the like. These bonds are generally called “Special Deficit-Financing Bonds”.

As is the case with Construction Bonds, the government can issue Special Deficit-Financing Bonds within the amount approved by the Diet and the ceiling amount is provided under the general provisions of the General Account budget (☞②).

Special Deficit-Financing Bond issuance must be made on exceptional cases. Therefore, the government has to minimize the issuance amount as much as possible within the amount approved by the Diet, while taking into account the state of tax and other revenues (☞③).

c. Reconstruction Bonds

To recover from the Great East Japan Earthquake disasters, the government is supposed to issue Reconstruction Bonds from FY2011 to FY2020 in accordance with “the Act on Special Measures concerning the securing of financial resources to execute measures necessary for recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake (Reconstruction Funding Act).” While necessary financial resources will be financed with revenues of Special Taxes for Reconstruction, the government will issue Reconstruction Bonds as bridging finance until these revenues are receivable to the government.

The government may issue these Reconstruction Bonds within the amount as approved by the Diet. The ceiling amount is provided under the general provisions of the Special Account budget from FY2012 onwards.

d. Refunding Bonds

As for General Bonds, Refunding Bonds are issued in order to raise funds for refunding part of matured JGBs. Among General Bonds, as for Construction Bonds and Special Deficit-Financing Bonds, the issuance amount of Refunding Bonds is determined basically in accordance with the 60-year redemption rule. As for Reconstruction Bonds, Refunding Bonds are issued depending on the amount of the revenue from Special Taxes for Reconstruction and profit from sales of stocks in each year (☞).

Refunding Bonds are the JGBs issued through the Special Account for the Government Debt Consolidation Fund (GDCCF). Revenues from Refunding Bonds are directly posted to the fund.

In the issuance of Refunding Bonds, the government is not required to seek the Diet approval for the maximum issuance amount. This is because unlike in the case of bonds issued to secure new revenue resources, such as Construction Bonds and Special Deficit-Financing Bonds, issuing Refunding Bonds does not lead to an increase in the total amount of outstanding debt.

(Reference) Front-loading issuance of Refunding Bonds

As massive bonds redemption at maturity is expected to continue, the government is allowed to front-load the issuance of Refunding Bonds in order to mitigate the impact of concentration of bonds redemption at maturity, to control substantial volatility of JGB market issuance in each fiscal year and to enable flexible issuance of them in response to

☞① The Act on Special Provisions concerning Issuance of Public Bonds to Secure Financial Resources Required for Fiscal Management allows Special Deficit-Financing Bonds to be issued for five years from FY2016 to FY2020.

☞② The government is also required to submit a redemption plan to the Diet for reference.

☞③ In this context, it is allowed to issue Special Deficit-Financing Bonds until the end of June in the next fiscal year. (deferred issuance in the accounting adjustment term)

Ref: Chapter 13 (1)
“Redemption System” (P73)

☞ In line with tax revenues through the consumption tax increases in and after FY2014, Refunding Bonds are issued for Special Bonds for covering Public Pension Funding, which were issued in FY2012 and FY2013 as bridging finance until tax revenues are assured for the finance of increase of the Government’s contribution to the basic national pension, based on the special law for Special Deficit-Financing Bonds legislated in FY 2012.

financial conditions and so on.

If we know in advance that bonds redemption at maturity will concentrate in a certain fiscal year, leading to a sharp rise in Refunding Bond issuance, then we are able to level off bond issuance on the yearly basis by issuing a certain portion of these bonds ahead of schedule (“FY2008 problem” (①)).

Front-loading issuance of Refunding Bonds can also serve to address a sharp fluctuation of fiscal needs without bringing about additional impacts on the market. If front-loading issuance of Refunding Bonds is already scheduled (i.e. scheduled bond issuance amount is larger than the necessary fund-raising amount), and the necessary fund-raising amount has increased, we are able to address the situation without changing the JGB Market Issuance (Calendar Base) by issuing the scheduled front-loading issuance amount as necessary JGBs for that fiscal year (②).

Front-loading issuance of Refunding Bonds can be made within the upper limit approved by the Diet in accordance with Paragraph (1), Article 47, of the Act on Special Accounts. The limit is provided in the general provisions of the Special Account budget in each fiscal year.

The gap between “the amount of the front-loading issuance of Refunding Bonds that had been scheduled in the previous fiscal year for this fiscal year” and “those that are scheduled front-loading in this fiscal year for the next fiscal year” can be used as part of this fiscal year’s financial resources under the government debt management policy. This is called “adjustment between fiscal years (③)” in terms of issuance type in the JGB Issuance Plan.

① The problem refers to concentrated bond redemption at maturity in FY2008 resulting from the large-scale 10-year JGB issuance mainly for economic stimulus purposes in FY1998. To address this problem, the government has coordinated the amount of JGB issuance between fiscal years by buying back JGBs redeemable at maturity in FY2008 and sharply increasing front-loading issuance of Refunding Bonds from FY2004.

② The second supplementary budget for FY2018 planned the additional issuance of 1,591.4 billion yen in JGBs (including Construction and Refunding Bonds). Then, the MOF utilized the front-loading issuance of Refunding Bonds and left the calendar-based JGB market issuance amount unchanged.

③ The adjustment includes the difference in the amount of issuance in the accounting adjustment term between the current and the previous fiscal years besides that of front-loading issuance of Refunding Bonds. In the accounting adjustment term, which means a period from April to June, some of Deficit-Financing or Reconstruction Bonds for the previous fiscal year can be issued.

B. Fiscal Investment and Loan Program Bonds (FILP Bonds)

Ref: "FILP Report"

Along with the FY2001 reform of the FILP (Fiscal Investment and Loan Program), the government started issuance of the Fiscal Investment and Loan Program Bonds (so-called FILP Bonds) to raise funds for the investment of the Fiscal Loan Fund. As is the case with other types of government bonds, FILP Bonds are issued based on the credit of the government up to the amount approved by the Diet, and the ceiling amount is provided under the general provisions of the Special Account Budget (Article 62(2) of the Act on Special Accounts) (①).

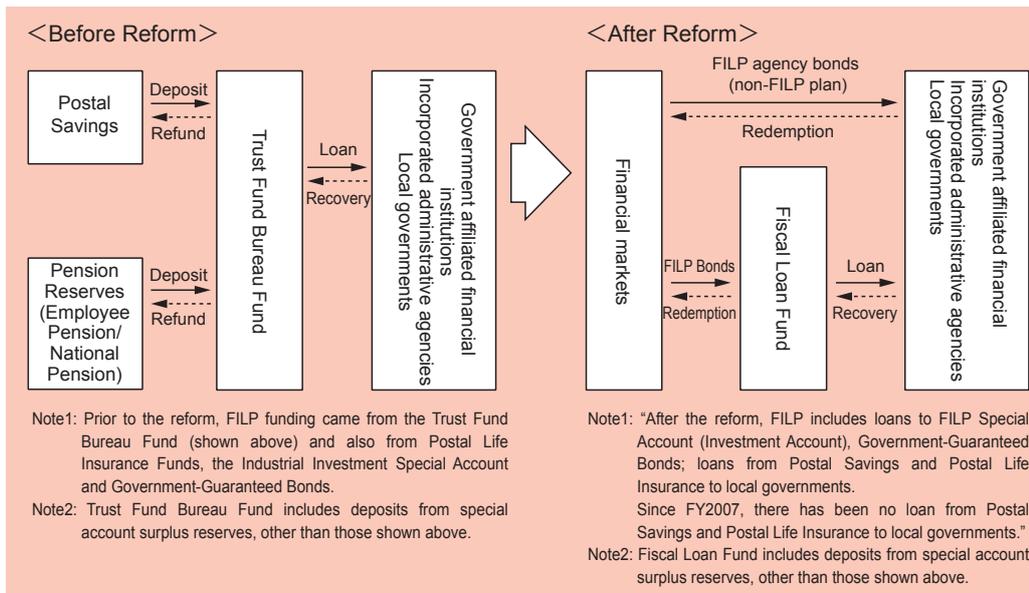
Revenues from the FILP Bonds issuance are allotted to the annual revenue for the Special Account for the Fiscal Investment and Loan Program (FILP Special Account).

However, the FILP Bonds are different from Construction Bonds and Special Deficit-Financing Bonds on one account. While future taxes will be used to redeem Construction Bonds and Special Deficit-Financing Bonds, the redemption on the FILP Bonds are covered by the collection of Fiscal Loan receivable. Therefore, when publishing outstanding debt, FILP Bonds are treated differently from General Bonds (②).

① As with Construction Bonds and Special Deficit-Financing Bonds, the government is required to submit a redemption plan to the Diet for a reference.

② Also in the System of National Accounts (SNA), which is created by the United Nations for each country to create economic statistics based on a common standard, FILP Bonds are not classified as debt of the general government.

Fig.2-2 Outline of FILP Reform



(2) Types of JGBs

Government bonds are the securities issued by the central government. The central government pays the bondholders interests on the securities on a semiannual basis, except for short-term bonds and redeems the principal amount at maturity (i.e., redemption). The JGBs currently issued can be classified into six categories: short-term (1-Year Bonds); medium-term (2-Year and 5-Year Bonds); long-term (10-Year Bonds); super long-term (20-Year, 30-Year and 40-Year Bonds); Inflation-Indexed Bonds (10-Year Bonds); and JGBs for Retail Investors (3-Year Fixed-Rate, 5-Year Fixed-Rate and 10-Year Floating-Rate Bonds).

The short-term JGBs are all discount bonds, which are accompanied by no interest payment during their duration to maturity and redeemed at face value at maturity.

On the other hand, all medium-, long-, super long-term bonds and JGBs for Retail Investors (3-Year Fixed-Rate, 5-Year Fixed-Rate) are the bonds with fixed-rate coupons. With fixed-rate coupon-bearing bonds, the interest calculated by the coupon rate determined at the time of issuance (①).

① is paid on a semiannual basis until the security matures and the principal is redeemed at face value.

Inflation-Indexed Bonds (JGBi) are securities whose principal amounts are linked to the consumer price index (CPI) (②). Thus, although their coupon rates are fixed, the interest payment also fluctuates. The principal amount of JGBi issued in and after 2013 will be guaranteed at maturity (deflation floor). In case where the indexation coefficient (③) falls below 1 at maturity, the principal amount for the JGBi will be redeemed at the face value.

JGBs for Retail Investors (10-Year Floating-Rate) and 15-Year Floating-Rate Bonds (④) are JGBs with coupon rates that vary over time according to certain rules. New issuance has been put on hold for the 15-Year Floating-Rate Bonds, however.

① In the case where the period of time between an issue date and the first interest payment date falls short of six months, accrued interest is generated. The accrued interest is an amount representing interest for the period of time where a JGB purchaser does not hold a JGB (six months minus the period of time where the purchaser actually holds the JGB). It is paid by the JGB purchaser upon JGB issuance for adjustment.

② Japan's Inflation-Indexed Bonds are indexed to the consumer price index (excluding perishables).

③ The indexation coefficient measures how much the CPI changed after an issue date.

④ Issuance of 15-Year Floating-Rate Bonds has been suspended since May 2008.

⑤ JGBs for retail investors can be transferred only to retail investors (including certain trust custodians).

Fig.2-3 Types of JGBs (④, ⑤)

Maturity	Short-term	Medium-term	Long-term
	1-Year	2-Year, 5-Year	10-Year
Type of issue	Discount bonds	Coupon-bearing bonds	
Min. face value unit	50,000 yen	50,000 yen	
Issuance method	Public offering BOJ Rollover	Public offering OTC sales (making offerings and accepting subscriptions)	
Auction method	Price-competitive auction/ Conventional-style auction	Price-competitive auction/ Conventional-style auction	
Non-price Competitive Auction	Non-Price Competitive Auction I	Non-Competitive Auction Non-Price Competitive Auction I Non-Price Competitive Auction II	
Transfer	Not restricted	Not restricted	
Frequency of issue (FY2019)	Monthly	Monthly each	

Maturity	Super long-term			JGBs for Retail Investors	Inflation-Indexed Bonds	Floating-Rate Bonds
	20-Year	30-Year	40-Year	3-Year Fixed-Rate, 5-Year Fixed-Rate, 10-Year Floating-Rate	10-Year	15-Year (④)
Type of issue	Coupon-bearing bonds					
Min. face value unit	50,000 yen			10,000 yen	100,000 yen	
Issuance method	Public offering			OTC sales (making offerings and accepting subscriptions)	Public offering	—
Auction method	Price-competitive auction/ Conventional-style auction	Yield-competitive auction/ Dutch-style auction	—	—	Price-competitive auction/ Dutch-style auction	—
Non-price Competitive Auction	Non-Price Competitive Auction I Non-Price Competitive Auction II	Non-Price Competitive Auction II	—	—	Non-Price Competitive Auction II	—
Transfer	Not restricted			Restricted (⑤)	Not restricted	Not restricted
Frequency of issue (FY2019)	Monthly each	6 times	Monthly each	Monthly each	4 times	—

(Reference) Inflation-Indexed Bonds

The development of the Inflation-Indexed Bonds (JGBi) market has remained a key to address market environment changes after overcoming deflation and to diversify JGB products. JGBi are bonds whose principals (and relevant interests) fluctuate in line with the core consumer price index (Fig. 2-4). The government began to issue JGBi in March 2004 and suspended their issuance in October 2008 due to a sharp demand decline accompanying the Lehman Shock and other changes. In October 2013, the government resumed JGBi issuance with the principal guarantee upon maturity (Fig. 2-5).

Fig.2-4 Conceptual scheme of Inflation-Indexed Bonds

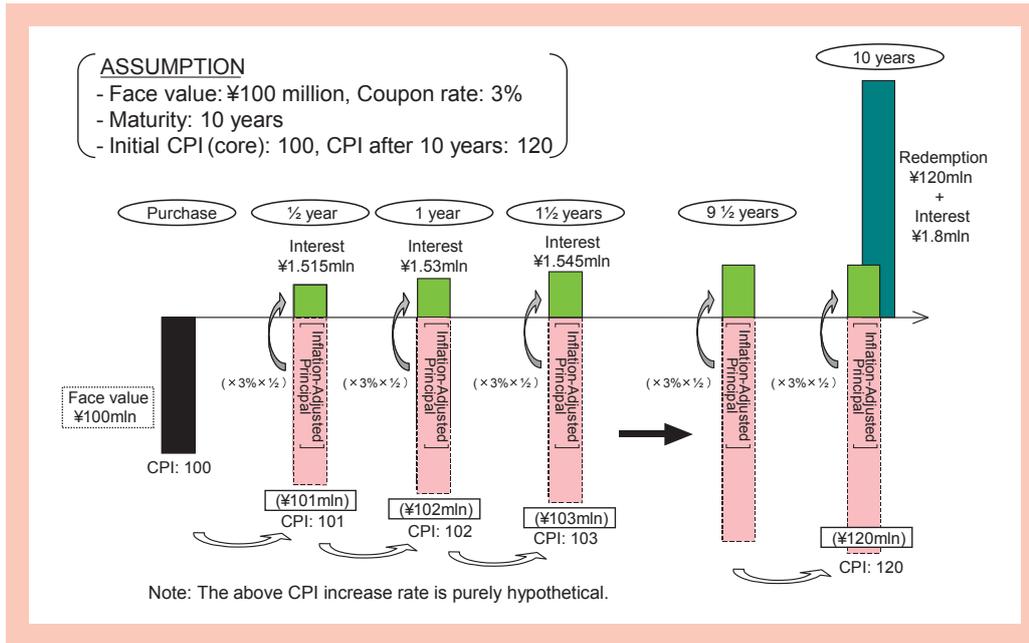
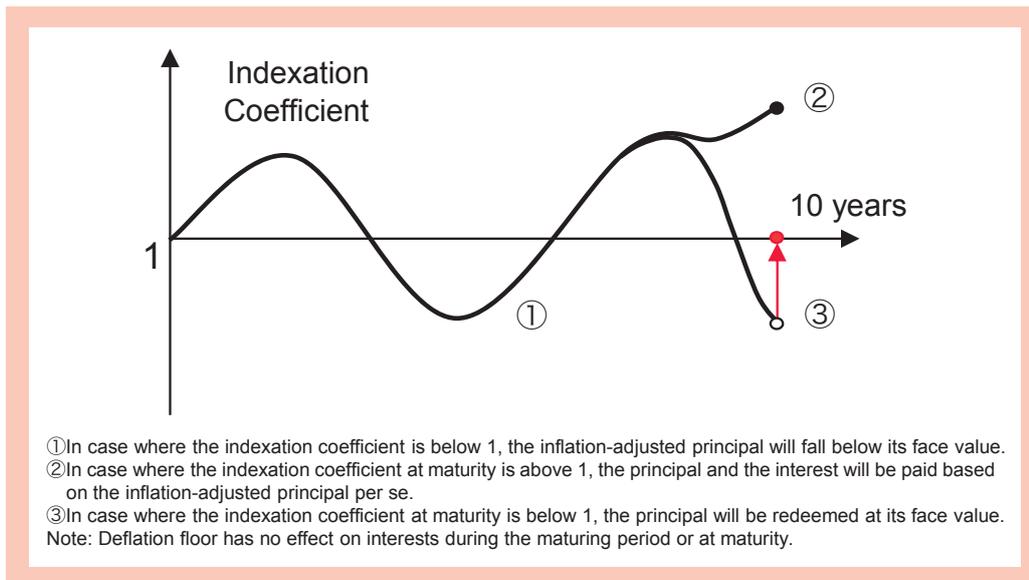


Fig.2-5 Deflation Floor (Conceptual Diagram)



(3) Methods of Issuance

Methods of issuing JGBs are basically divided into three: offerings to the market, sales to retail investors, and offerings to the public sector.

A. Offering to the market

JGBs are principally issued in public offering on market-based issue terms.

a. Auction method

① Price/yield-competitive auction

Price/yield-competitive auction is a method in which each auction participant (①) submits a bidding price (or yield) and bidding amount in response to the issue terms (e.g.,

① No new 40-Year JGB coupon rate is given in advance as it is determined based on the result of first yield-competitive auction.

issuance amount, maturity, coupon rate (☞②)) presented by the MOF, and the issuance price and amount will then be determined based on the bids.

In this type of auction, the issuing authority starts selling first to the highest price bidder in descending order (or to the lowest yield bidder in ascending order) till the cumulative total reaches the planned issuance amount. In Japan, the auction method varies by type of security. One is the conventional (multiple price) method by which each winning bidder purchases the security at one's bidding price; and the other is the Dutch-style (single price/yield) method by which all winning bidders pay the lowest accepted bid price regardless of their original bid prices (or yields) (☞③).

② Non-competitive auction

Besides competitive auction, 2-Year, 5-Year and 10-Year Bonds are also issued through non-competitive auction. This approach is to take into account small and medium market participants who tend to submit a smaller bid than their larger counterparts. Biddings for non-competitive auction are offered at the same time as for the price-competitive auction, and the price offered equals to the weighted average accepted price of the price competitive auction. One can bid for either the price competitive auction or for the non-price competitive auction.

The maximum issuance amount is 10% of the planned issuance amount. Each participant is permitted to bid up to 1 billion yen (☞).

③ Non-Price Competitive Auction I & II

Non-Price Competitive Auction I is an auction in which biddings are offered at the same time as for the price-competitive auction. The maximum issuance amount is set at 20% of the total planned issuance amount and the price offered is equal to the weighted average accepted price of the price competitive auction. Only the JGB Market Special Participants are eligible to bid in this auction. Each participant is allowed to bid up to the amount set based on the result of its successful bids during the preceding two quarters. 40-year or JGBi issues are not subject to Non-Price Competitive Auction I.

Non-Price Competitive Auction II is an auction carried out after the competitive auction is finished. The price offered is equal to the weighted average accepted price in the price-competitive auction or issuance price in Dutch-style competitive auction. Only the JGB Market Special Participants are eligible to bid in this auction. Each participant is allowed to bid up to the amount set based on the result of its bids during the preceding two quarters (☞). Short-term JGB issues are not subject to Non-Price Competitive Auction II.

b. Reopening rule

In March 2001, the immediate reopening rule was introduced for the purpose of the enhancement of JGB liquidity, etc. The rule treats a new JGB issue as an addition to an outstanding issue immediately from the issuance day, in principle, if the principal and interest payment dates and the coupon rate for the new issue are the same as those for the outstanding issue. 5-Year Bonds issues are subject to the rule (☞).

From the viewpoint of securing market supply of each issue, 10, 20, 30 and 40-year issues in FY2019 are subjected to the following rule, which is more advanced than the immediate reopening rule.

☞② Auction participants are designated according to Article 5(2) of the Ordinance of the Ministry of Finance on Issuance, etc. of National Government Bonds. As of April 1, 2019, there were 238 auction participants.

☞③ The price-competitive conventional auction is used for all JGB issues excluding the 40-Year issue subject to the yield-competitive Dutch auction and the Inflation-Indexed Bonds subject to the price-competitive Dutch auction.

☞ The ceiling amount to bid is not applied to the Shinkin Central Bank, the Shinkumi Federation Bank, the Rokinren Bank and the Norinchukin Bank.

☞ Each participant is allowed to bid up to the 15% of one's total successful biddings in the competitive auction and Non-Price Competitive Auction I.

☞ As principal and interest payment dates for 2-Year Bonds differ from auction to auction, 2-Year Bonds are not effectively subjected to the reopening rule (see "Principal/Coupon Payment Corresponding to Days of Issuance in FY2019" (See III Chapter 1 1 (5) (P120)).

The government will reopen a 10-year issue four times (integrating April, May and June issues in 2019 into the April 2019 issue, July, August and September issues into the July 2019 issue, October, November and December issues into the October 2019 issue, and January, February and March issues in 2020 into the January 2020 issue) unless interest rates fluctuate wildly (a market yield on an auction day for a new issue deviates from the coupon on an earlier issue with the same maturity date by more than 30 basis points). The reopening rule will also be used in principle to integrate 20-Year and 30-Year Bonds each into four issues. The 40-Year Bonds (May, July, September, November, January and March issues) will be integrated into one issue (May issue). In principle, JGBi issues (May, August, November and February issues) will be integrated into one issue (May issue).

B. Methods of selling JGBs to Retail Investors

a. JGBs for Retail Investors

In March 2003, issuance was started on 10-Year Floating-Rate Bonds for Retail Investors (👉) in order to promote JGB holdings among individuals. Moreover, in order to respond to retail investors' various needs and to promote further sales, the government has been improving product features by introducing 5-Year Fixed-Rate and 3-Year Fixed-Rate Bonds.

Issuance of JGBs for Retail Investors rests on their handling and distribution by their handling institutions comprised of securities companies, banks, and other financial institutions as well as post offices (about 1,000 institutions). The handling institutions are commissioned by the government to accept purchase applications and to sell JGBs to retail investors. Handling institutions are paid a commission by the government corresponding to the handled issuance amounts.

b. New Over-The-Counter (OTC) sales system for selling marketable JGBs

In addition to JGBs for Retail Investors, in October 2007 a new OTC sales system for marketable JGBs was introduced in order to increase retail investors purchase opportunities with regard to JGBs (2-Year, 5-Year, and 10-Year Bonds).

With regard to this new OTC sales system, it allows private financial institutions to engage in subscription-based OTC sales of JGBs in a manner previously exclusive to post offices. This development allows retail investors to purchase JGBs via financial institutions with whom they are familiar, it also allows them to purchase JGBs in a manner that is essentially ongoing. Depending on market yield conditions, however, the acceptance of subscriptions may be suspended.

As with JGBs for Retail Investors, for the new OTC sales system, the government has commissioned financial institutions (about 700 institutions) to conduct subscriptions and sales of JGBs. Note that while these financial institutions are required to accept subscription and sell JGBs at prices defined by the MOF within a defined period, they are not required to purchase any unsold JGBs.

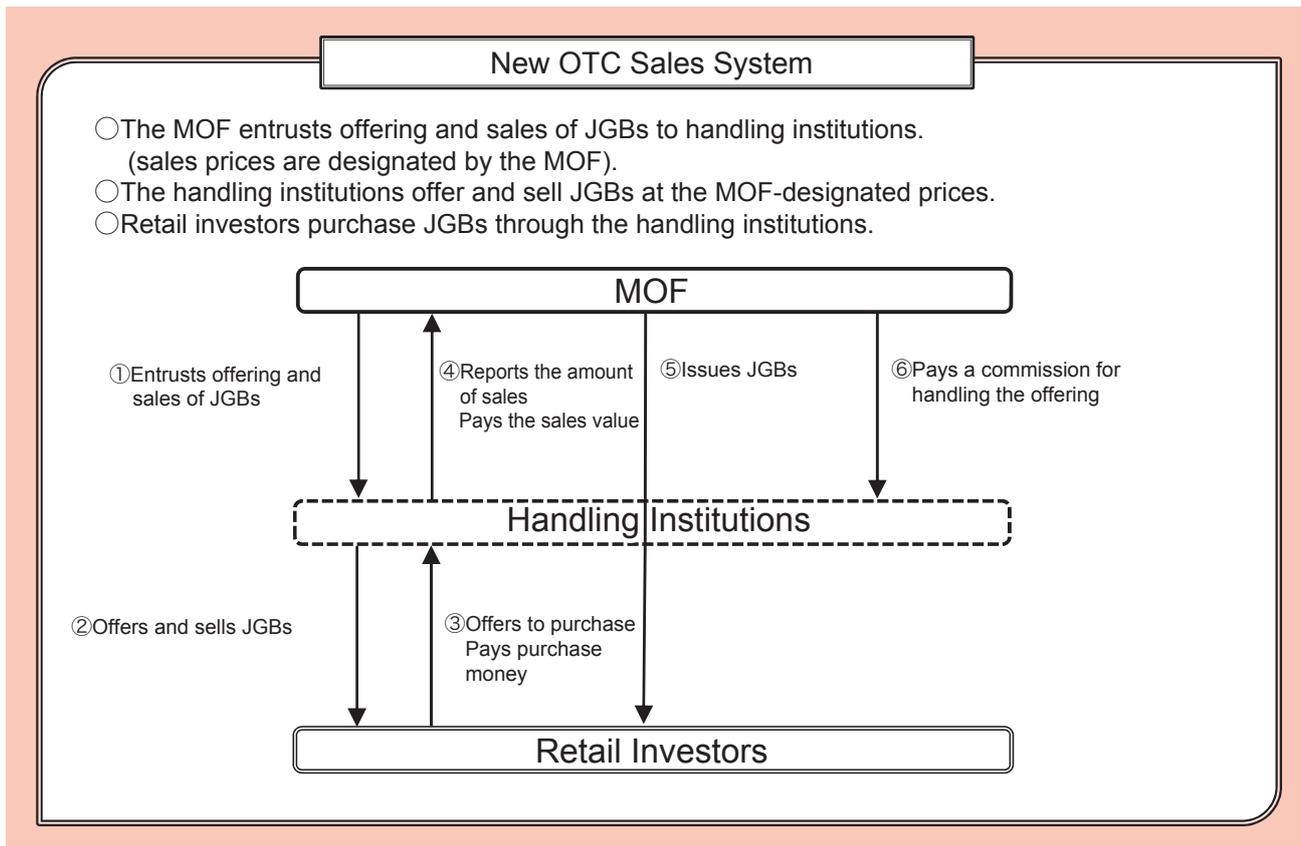
Ref: Part I, 3 (1) "JGB Holdings by Retail Investors" (P25)

👉 JGBs for Retail Investors are designed not to lose principal. The minimum interest rate of 0.05% is set to prevent the rate from falling to zero or becoming negative.

Fig.2-6 Comparison of JGBs for Retail Investors and New Over-The-Counter (OTC) Sales System

	JGBs for Retail Investors			New OTC JGBs		
	10-Year Floating-Rate	5-Year Fixed-Rate	3-Year Fixed-Rate	10-Year Marketable Fixed-Rate Bonds	5-Year Marketable Fixed-Rate Bonds	2-Year Marketable Fixed-Rate Bonds
Maturity	10-year	5-year	3-year	10-year	5-year	2-year
Frequency of issuance	Monthly (12 times a year)			Monthly (12 times a year)		
Purchase units/purchase value limits	Minimum purchase of 10 thousand yen in 10 thousand yen units/No upper limit			Minimum purchase of 50 thousand yen in 50 thousand yen units/Maximum value of 300 million yen per individual application		
Sales price	100 yen per 100 yen of face value (the same in the redemption)			Determined by MOF for each issue(possible to sell at any time on the market. However, the price may change when the bonds are sold before maturity.)		
Purchasers	Limited to retail investors			No restrictions (can also be purchased by corporate entities or condominium associations, etc.)		
Interest rate	Floating-rate	Fixed-rate		Fixed-rate		
Minimum interest rate	Present (0.05%)			Absent		
Redemption before maturity	Once one year has elapsed since issuance, redemption before maturity due to government buy-back shall be possible at any time(there is no principal loss risk). Deduct the two interest payments immediately preceding redemption (pre-tax) x0.79685.			Possible to sell at any time on the market (however, because the price at time of sale shall be the market price at that time, loss/profit shall occur on sale(there is a principal loss risk). Furthermore, there is no scheme for the government to buy-back these bonds before maturity.)		
Introduction (1st issuance)	March, 2003	January,2006	July, 2010	October, 2007		

Fig.2-7 Flow of New OTC Sales



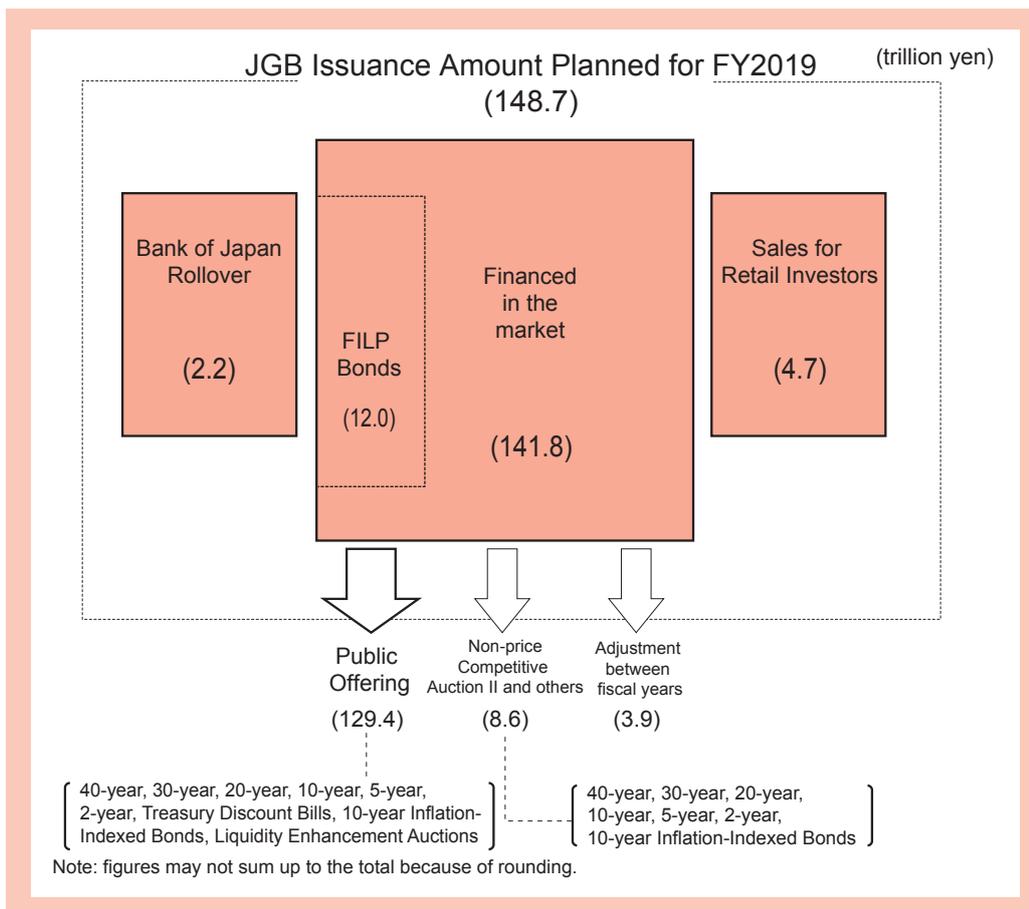
C. Offering to the public sector (Bank of Japan Rollover)

In the Bank of Japan rollover, the BOJ underwrites Refunding Bonds instead of asking the government to redeem part of JGBs that mature after being purchased by the central bank in the market.

While Article 5 of the Public Finance Act prohibits the BOJ from underwriting government bonds, the abovementioned BOJ rollover is an exception that is allowed up to an amount authorized by the Diet under a proviso to the Article. Every fiscal year, the MOF requests the BOJ rollover that the central bank accepts after confirming that the rollover will cause no problem with monetary policy.

An increase in the BOJ rollover can reduce the amount of JGBs issued through usual auctions in the market, allowing the MOF to level the effects of fluctuations in the annual JGB redemption amount and fiscal demand on fluctuations in the amount of JGB market issuance through usual auctions. Therefore, the MOF decides on the BOJ rollover request amount based on the annual JGB Issuance Plan, etc.

Fig.2-8 JGB Issuance Amount by Methods of Issuance



(4) JGB Market Special Participants Scheme

Amid expectations that JGB issuance in large volumes will continue, in October 2004 the “JGB Market Special Participants Scheme” was introduced in Japan. This scheme is designed based on the so-called “Primary Dealer System” generally maintained in major European countries and the U.S. to facilitate stable and smooth issuance and to maintain and enhance the liquidity of government bond markets.

Under the scheme, the MOF grants special entitlements to certain auction participants who carry out responsibilities essential to debt management policies, such as active participation in JGB auctions. The MOF expects the scheme to facilitate stable and smooth issuance of JGBs and to maintain and enhance the liquidity of the JGB market. The following is an outline of the scheme.

A. Responsibilities of JGB Market Special Participants

- Bidding responsibility:
In every auction, the Special Participants shall bid for an adequate amount (at least 5% of the planned issue amount) at reasonable prices.
- Purchasing responsibility:
The Special Participants shall purchase and underwrite at least a specified share of the planned total issue amount (0.5% for short-term zone; and 1% for other zone) in each of the super long-term, long-term, medium-term and short-term zones in auctions for the preceding two quarters.
- Responsibility on the secondary market:
The Special Participants shall provide sufficient liquidity to the JGB secondary market.
- Information sharing:
The Special Participants shall provide information on JGB markets and related transactions to the MOF.

B. Entitlements of JGB Market Special Participants

- Participation in the Meeting of JGB Market Special Participants:
The Special Participants can take part in the meeting in order to exchange opinions with the MOF on JGB management policies.
- Participation in Auctions for Buy-backs:
The Special Participants can take part in Auctions for Buy-backs.
- Separation and integration of STRIPS Bonds:
The Special Participants can apply for the separation and integration of STRIPS.
- Participation in Non-Price Competitive Auctions I & II:
The Special Participants can take part in Non-Price Competitive Auction I held concurrently with a normal competitive auction and in Non-Price Competitive Auction II held after a normal competitive auction. These auctions enable Special Participants to obtain JGBs at the weighted average accepted price at a competitive auction (or at the issuance price at a Dutch-style auction) up to a purchasing limit preset for each Participant on the basis of the amount of past successful bids (Non-Price Competitive Auction I) and past bids as a whole (Non-Price Competitive Auction II).
- Participation in Liquidity Enhancement Auctions:

The Special Participants can take part in Liquidity Enhancement Auctions that are designed to maintain and improve liquidity on the JGB market.

(Revisions of JGB Market Special Participants Scheme)

As investors' needs for purchasing JGBs at average prices have recently grown against the backdrop of falling market liquidity and rising volatility, JGB Market Special Participants have requested to expand the maximum issuance amount for Non-Price Competitive Auction I. In response to such needs, the MOF expanded the maximum issuance amount from 10% to 20% of the total planned issuance amount from July 2017. From the viewpoint of balancing Special Participants' entitlement and responsibility, the MOF also raised the minimum bidding responsibility amount from 4% to 5% of the planned issuance amount.

C. History of Scheme Introduction

- October 2004: JGB Market Special Participants Scheme was introduced (Special Participants were designated. The Meeting of JGB Special Participants started. Non-Price Competitive Auction II was launched.).
- April 2005: Non-Price Competitive Auction I was launched.
- January 2006: Interest rate swap transactions started.
- March 2006: The government bond syndicate underwriting system was abolished.
- April 2006: Liquidity Enhancement Auction was launched.
- April 2015: An auction participant's maximum bid amount was reduced from "100% of the planned issuance amount" to "50% of the amount" and such participant's minimum bidding responsibility amount was raised from "3% of the planned issuance amount" to "4% of the amount."
- July 2017: The maximum issuance amount for Non-Price Competitive Auction I was raised from "10% of the total planned issuance amount" to "20% of the amount" and the minimum bidding responsibility amount from "4% of the planned issuance amount" to "5% of the amount."

(5) Government Bond Administration

A. Items the Bank of Japan handles

The government does not directly undertake the government bond-related administrative tasks, such as issuance and redemption, but entrusts the BOJ with most of those tasks based on Article 1, Paragraph 2 of the Act on National Government Bonds. Those administrative tasks entrusted to the BOJ are as follows (☞).

- Issuance: The BOJ accepts bids from bidders in auctions, notifies amounts of bids accepted, collects payments, issues the securities, and receives and handles revenues.
- Redemption/interest payment: The BOJ pays principal and interests on JGBs, and receives and handles funds to be used for redemption, and makes their disbursement.

☞ The BOJ provides these government bond related services through its head office and branches, and through agent financial institutions.

B. The Bank of Japan government bond network system

The Bank of Japan operates the Bank of Japan Financial Network System (BOJ-NET) JGB Services (☞①) to efficiently and safely implement JGB issuance, redemption and other administrative tasks as explained above and the settlement of JGB transactions with its customer financial institutions.

Banks, securities companies, money market brokers, insurance companies, etc. participate in the BOJ-NET JGB Services that implement JGB issuance, redemption and other administrative tasks online.

Under the Act on Book Entry of Corporate Bonds and Shares, at present, JGBs traded between financial institutions are paperless. JGB transfers are done in the form of transfers on accounts managed by the transfer institution (the Bank of Japan) (☞②).

The BOJ-NET JGB Services allow the following procedures to be completed online:

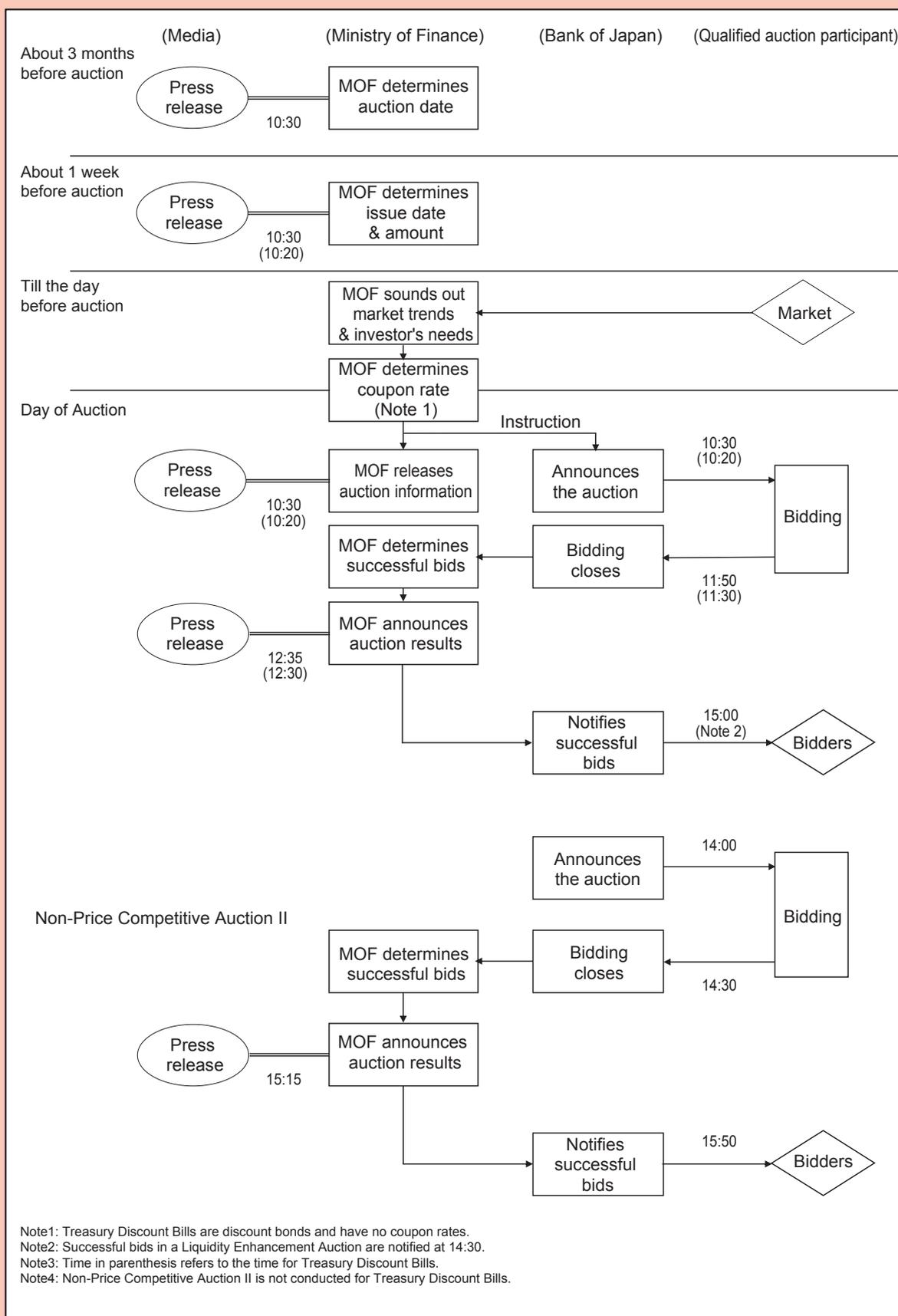
- Notification of offering (from the BOJ to auction participants)
- Bidding (from bidders to the BOJ)
- Counting the number of bidding and reporting to the MOF on total bidding
- Notification of accepted/allocated bids (from the BOJ to bidders)
- Issuance and payment (from the BOJ to purchasers / from purchasers to the BOJ)

☞① The BOJ-NET includes the BOJ-NET current account system as a fund settlement system and the BOJ-NET JGB Services as a JGB settlement system.

☞② JGBs for this mechanism are called Book-entry transfer JGBs, representing those whose ownership is determined by descriptions or records in book-entry accounts as provided by the “Act on Book Entry of Corporate Bonds and Shares.” (JGB certificates are not issued.)

C. Auction procedures for public offering auction

Fig.2-9 Auction Procedures for Public Offering Auction



D. Shortening of Settlement Cycles in Primary JGB Market

In a manner to meet the shortening of the settlement cycle to T+1 for the secondary JGB market (👉), Japan shortened the settlement cycle (between auction and issuance dates) from T+2 to T+1 in principle for auctions from May 1, 2018.

At the same time, Japan shortened settlement cycles for coupon-bearing issues (5- to 30-year issues) coming in massive JGB redemption months (March, June, September and December) and a 2-year issue every month.

👉 Ref: Chapter 1, 2(3)C “Shortening of settlement periods” (P64).

Fig.2-10 Entire Picture of Shortening of JGB Settlement Cycles

		Settlement day (JGB delivery and payment day)	
		Until April 2018	From May 2018
Secondary market		T+2 (2nd business day after a transaction)	T+1 (1st business day after a transaction)
Primary market	In principle	T+2 (2nd business day after an auction)	T+1 (1st business day after an auction)
	Coupon-bearing issues (5- to 30-year issues) in massive JGB redemption months (March, June, September and December)	20th day (irrespective of any auction day) (If an issuance day falls on a holiday, the next business day is adopted)	T+1 (1st business day after an auction)
	monthly 2-year issue	15th day of a month after an auction month (irrespective of any auction day) (If a settlement day falls on a holiday, the next business day is adopted)	1st day of a month after an auction month (irrespective of any auction day) (If a settlement day falls on a holiday, the next business day is adopted)

Of 5- to 30-year issues, issuance dates for those issued in the months (March, June, September and December) for the redemption of earlier issues had been unified into the 20th day of each month (the next business day if the 20th day falls on a holiday). As for the monthly 2-year issue, the issuance date had been set at the 15th day of a month after an auction month (the next business day if the 15th day falls on a holiday) to meet relevant redemption and pension payment dates. As a result, settlement cycles for these JGB auctions had been longer than two business days. Depending on auction schedules, cycles between auctions and issuances had exceeded 10 business days.

In this situation, market participants requested to shorten settlement cycles for reasons including that the settlement of transactions between auction and issuance dates for a JGB issue concentrated on the issuance date to increase settlement risks.

In response, the JGB issuance authority, the MOF Financial Bureau, considered shortening these JGB settlement cycles, based on discussions with a wide range of market participants and those at the Meeting of JGB Market Special Participants and the Meeting of JGB Investors. The authorities decided on the following institutional design.

① Coupon-bearing (5- to 30- year) JGB Issues in Massive Redemption Months

For coupon-bearing (5- to 30-year) JGB issues coming in massive JGB redemption months (March, June, September and December) for which issuance dates had been unified into the

20th day of each month (the next business day if the 20th day falls on a holiday) irrespective of auction dates, settlement cycles were shortened to T+1 for auctions as from May 1, 2018, in principle.

Then, relations between issuance months, initial interest payment dates and redemption dates for issues coming after the shortening of settlement cycles were changed as follows (Fig.2-11):

Fig.2-11 Relations between issuance months, initial interest payment dates and redemption dates (for 5- to 30-year JGB issues)

Issuance month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Initial interest payment date before change	June 20		September 20			December 20			March 20		June 20	
Initial interest payment date after change	June 20		September 20			December 20			March 20			

Issuance month	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Redemption date before change	December 20		March 20			June 20			September 20		December 20	
Redemption date after change	December 20		March 20			June 20			September 20			

② Monthly 2-year JGB issue

For a 2-year JGB issue coming every month for which an issuance date had been set at the 15th day (the next business day if the 15th day falls on a holiday) of a month after an auction month irrespective of the auction date, the issuance date was set at the first day (the next business day if the first day falls on a holiday) of a month after an auction month as from May 1, 2018. Initial interest payment and redemption dates were also changed to the first day of each month.

Column 6 Debt Management Policies in Foreign Countries

1 Debt Management Policies, Issuance Plans

In Japan, the basic objectives of the debt management policy are set as: (1) ensuring the stable and smooth issuance of Japanese Government Bonds and (2) minimizing medium to long-term financing costs. In line with these objectives, the government carefully pays attention to market conditions and makes efforts to manage JGBs based on investor needs and market trends. Basically, foreign countries also take almost the same stance on their debt management policies, but they have their unique characteristics.

Further, the JGB Issuance Plan is established in line with annual budget formulation and an annual planned issuance amount for each maturity and other data are published in Japan but methods for publishing such data also vary from country to country. At the end of each fiscal year, Germany publishes the total government bond issue amount and its breakdown by maturity for the following fiscal year. This method is considered similar to that of Japan. On the other hand, the U.S. determines and publishes necessary issuance amounts not on a fiscal year basis but on a quarterly basis, complying with the upper debt limit specified by law. In addition, the timing of information disclosure during the period from the announcement of a planned issuance amount to an actual auction for the issue also varies from country to country (Fig.c6-1) (Fig.c6-2).

Fig.c6-1 Debt Management Policies in Japan and Foreign Countries

	Japan	U.S.	U.K.	Germany	France
Debt Management Office	Financial Bureau, Ministry of Finance	Department of the Treasury, Office of Debt Management Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Fiscal Service	HM Treasury Debt Management Office (DMO)	Bundesministerium der Finanzen Bundesrepublik Deutschland - Finanzagentur GmbH (German Finance Agency)	Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances, Direction générale du Trésor, Agence France Trésor (AFT)
The Objective of Debt Management Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring stable smooth issuance of JGBs Minimizing medium-to-long term financing costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To finance government borrowing needs at the lowest cost over time To issue debt in a regular and predictable pattern 	To minimise, over the long term, the costs of meeting the government's financing needs, taking into account risk, while ensuring that debt management policy is consistent with the aims of monetary policy.	To keep interest costs as low as possible across a number of years and market phases while limiting the interest rate risks resulting from the portfolio structure.	Raising sufficient funds on the markets to finance the State by keeping the debt burden to taxpayers down to a minimum under optimum conditions of security.
Fiscal Year	April to March next year	October previous year to September	April to March next year	January to December	January to December
Issuance Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement of total JGB issuance amount for the next fiscal year, breakdowns by maturity, and frequency of issuance, etc. in late-December each year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement of planned issuance amounts by maturity, auction schedule, etc. on a quarterly basis (February, May, August and November). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement of total issuance amount for the next fiscal year, breakdowns by maturity, etc. in March each year. Announcement of specific details of issues and auction schedule on a quarterly basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement of planned issuance amounts by maturity, auction schedule, New issue/ Reopening, etc. for the next fiscal year in December each year. Thereafter, announcement of auction schedule again on a quarterly basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement of total issuance amount for the next fiscal year in December each year. Specific issuance amounts are determined at a meeting with PD held in the week preceding the issuance date.

(Sources) Relevant countries' debt management authorities

Fig.c6-2 Announcement Time of Issuance Amount and Auction Date in Japan and Foreign Countries

	Japan	U.S.	U.K.	Germany	France
In previous fiscal year					
Quarterly basis	<p>* Auction date of each month is announced 3 months before.</p>				
Approximately one week before					

Note 1: As for issuance lots per auction announced in the previous fiscal year, the fixed amounts are announced one week before in Japan and again every quarter in Germany.

Note 2: Planned quarterly amounts financed from the market.

Note 3: Scheduled auction date is announced again every quarter.

(Sources) Relevant countries' debt management authorities

2 Bond Types and Issuance Methods

Methods of issuing government bonds adopted in various foreign countries are divided into two types: offering to the market through auctions or other means (marketable bonds) and offering to retail investors without going through the market (non-marketable bonds).

Marketable bonds are normally offered mainly through the public auction method which uses both competitive and noncompetitive auctions. As for competitive auctions, notable is the fact that the U.K., Germany and France employ the multiple price (conventional) method (Note 1) for almost all maturities as is the case of Japan while the U.S. employs the single price (Dutch-style) method for all maturities (Note 2). In addition, the U.K. and France also use the syndication method (Note 3) to issue some of the super long-term bonds and inflation-indexed bonds (Fig.c6-3).

(Note 1) Auction method by which each winning bidder purchases the security at one's bidding price (or yield)

(Note 2) Auction method by which all winning bidders pay the same lowest price/highest yield of their biddings regardless of their original bidding prices (or yields)

(Note 3) Method of offering/underwriting by a syndication composed of financial institutions, securities companies, etc.

Fig.c6-3 Bond Types and Issuance Methods in Japan and Foreign countries

	Japan	U.S.	U.K.	Germany	France
Short-term	About 2-month, 3-month, 6-month, 1-year	8-week, 13-week, 26-week, 52-week	1-month, 3-month, 6-month, 12-month	6-month, 12-month	Less than or equal to 1-year
Medium-term	2-year, 5-year	2-year, 3-year, 5-year, 7-year	1 ~ 7-year	2-year, 5-year	2 ~ 8-year
Long-term	10-year	10-year	7 ~ 15-year	10-year	8 ~ 50-year (Note1)
Super Long-term	20-year, 30-year, 40-year	30-year	15 ~ 55-year	30-year	
Others	Inflation-Indexed Bonds (10-year)	Inflation-Indexed Bonds (5-year, 10-year, 30-year) Floating Rate Bonds (2-year)	Inflation-Indexed Bonds (5 ~ 55-year)	Inflation-Indexed Bonds (5-year, 10-year, 30-year)	Inflation-Indexed Bonds (2 ~ 30-year)
Issuance Method	Multiple price (conventional) method (40-year, Inflation-Indexed Bonds: single price/yield (Dutch-style) method)	Single price (Dutch-style) method	Multiple price (conventional) method (Inflation-Indexed Bonds: single price (Dutch-style) method) (Note 2)	Multiple price (conventional) method (Note 3)	Multiple price (conventional) method (Note2)

Note 1: Green Bonds are included.

Note 2: The syndication method is used to issue some super long-term bonds and inflation-indexed bonds.

Note 3: The syndication method was adopted for the first and second 10-year inflation-indexed bond issues (2006) and the first 30-year inflation-indexed bond issue (2015).

(Sources) Relevant countries' debt management authorities

Representative non-marketable bonds are bonds for holdings only by households and other retail investors (savings-type bonds), issued in Japan, the U.S. and the U.K. The U.K. features unique non-marketable bonds that cannot be seen in other countries, including Premium Bonds that offer a monthly prize draw instead of earning interest. Meanwhile, Germany and France issued government bonds for retail investors in the past but have discontinued the issuance.

The U.S. issues a large amount of non-marketable bonds intended for government accounts including government entities and pension funds, which account for approximately 30% of its entire government debt outstanding.

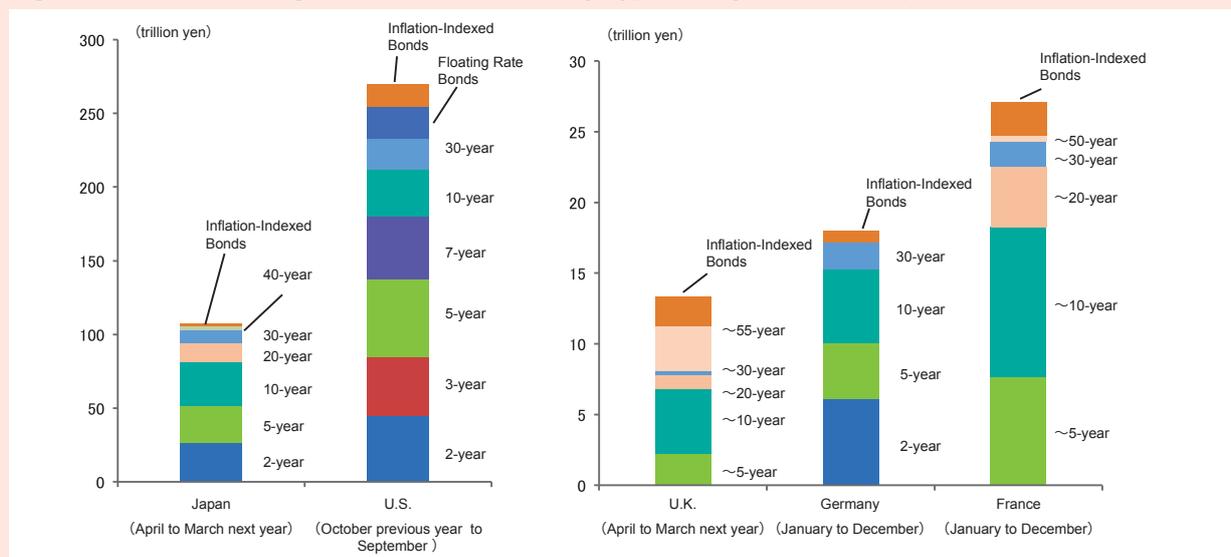
Note: For Japanese government bonds for retail investors, see “Fig.2-6 Comparison of JGBs for Retail Investors and New Over-The-Counter (OTC) Sales System” (P46).

③ Medium to Long-Term Bond Issuance Broken down by Type

In Japan, the government issues fixed-rate coupon-bearing bonds with a maturity of 40 years at the longest by striking a balance with market trends and investor needs, etc. As shown by the examples of foreign countries, the medium-term zone (7 years or less) accounts for about 50 to 60% of all government bonds in the U.S. and Germany while the super long-term zone accounts for about 20 to 30% of all such bonds in the U.K. and France. Maturity compositions thus vary widely from country to country. In addition, it is notable that the U.K. and France specify no maturity and divide maturities into rough categories in a flexible manner.

As for Inflation-Indexed Bonds in Japan, the authorities adjust the issuance amount flexibly in response to the market environment and investment needs based on dialogue with market participants. In the U.K., Inflation-Indexed Bonds account for some 20% of all outstanding government bonds, being established as a major fundraising means. In France, Inflation-Indexed Bonds account for around 10%, occupying a major position (Fig. c6-4).

Fig.c6-4 Medium to Long-Term Bond Issuance by Type in Major Countries (FY2018)



Note 1: Other than those described above, Liquidity Enhancement Auctions are held in Japan.
 Note 2: Foreign currencies are converted into yen using the following exchange rates: 1 dollar = 110.85 yen, 1 GBP = 144.50 yen and 1 euro = 124.36 yen (as of March 31, 2019).
 Note 3: Issuance amount is calculated on a nominal basis.
 (Sources) Relevant countries' debt management authorities

4 Liquidity Maintenance/Enhancement Measures

Japan has adopted reopening for 20- to 40-year and Inflation-Indexed JGB issues in principle and 10-year JGB issues unless yields fluctuate wildly (the gap between the market yield and the coupon on a new issue exceeds 30 basis points). Japan has thus tried to maintain and enhance liquidity by securing a sufficient outstanding value for each issue. Through liquidity enhancement auctions, Japan also reopens issues that have structural liquidity shortages or temporary liquidity shortages due to expanding demand.

Among foreign countries, the U.S. and Germany have adopted reopening for on-the-run issues (excluding 7-year or shorter issues in the U.S.) in principle. In the U.K. and France, the debt management authorities discretionarily reopen any issues whether they are on- or off-the-run (Fig.c6-5).

In Germany, meanwhile, the authority reserves part of each debt issuance amount and gradually sell such reserves in consideration of secondary market conditions. Countries implement various measures to maintain and enhance government bond market liquidity.

Fig.c6-5 Reopening Issuances in Foreign Countries

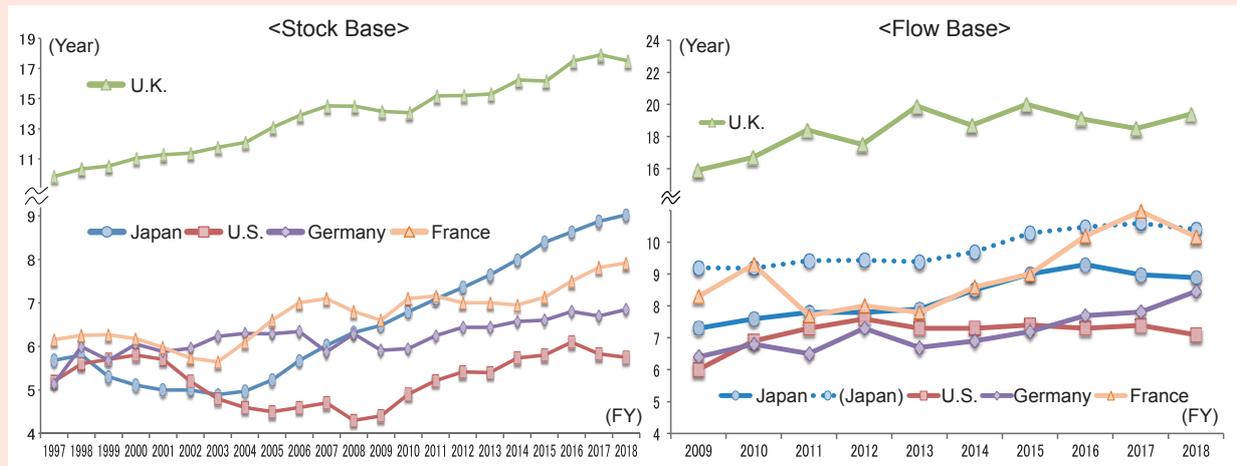
	Japan	U.S.	U.K.	Germany	France
Reopening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5-year (Note 1) 10-year (Note 2) 20-year 30-year 40-year Inflation-Indexed Bonds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10-year 30-year Floating Rate Bonds(2-year) Inflation-Indexed Bonds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium-term (1~7-year) Long-term (7~15-year) Super Long-term (15~55-year) Inflation-Indexed Bonds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-year 5-year 10-year 30-year Inflation-Indexed Bonds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium-term (2~8-year) Long-term, Super Long-term (8~50-year) (Note 3) Inflation-Indexed Bonds
Without reopening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-year 3-year 5-year 7-year 	—	—	—

Note1: Reopening issuance only in case nominal coupon is the same as that of previous issue.
 Note2: "Reopening method in principle" except in case of significant change in market environments.
 Note3: Green Bonds are included.
 (Sources) Relevant countries' debt management authorities

5 Average Maturity

The “stock-base average maturity” is viewed as an important benchmark for assessing refunding risks. Comparison between stock-based average maturities for government bonds in Japan and major foreign countries indicates that the averages range from five to eight years in the U.S., Germany and France (the average stands at as high as more than 17 years in the U.K. with super long-term issues accounting for a large share of all government bonds), while the Japanese average bottomed out at 4.9 years at the end of FY2003 and lengthened by approximately 4.1 years in 15 years to 9.0 years at the end of FY2018 (Fig.c6-6).

Fig.c6-6 Average Maturity



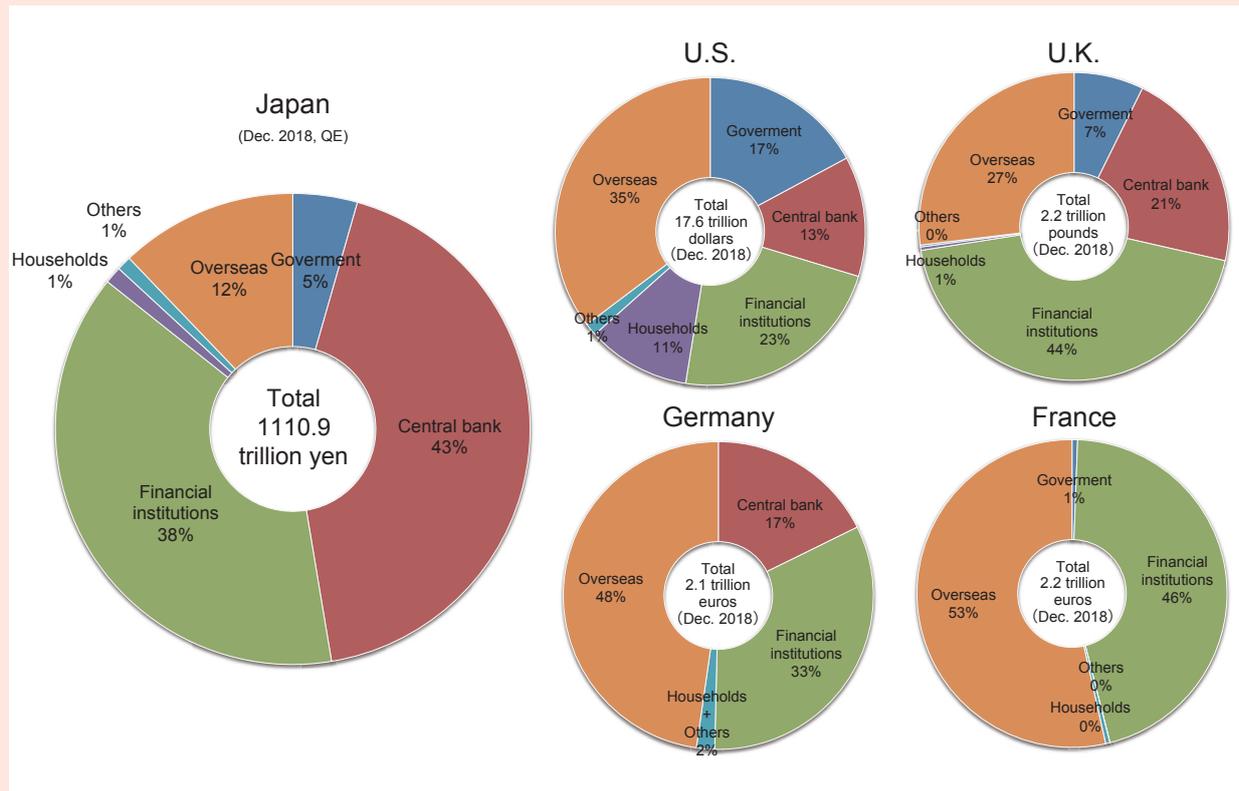
Note 1: Data for Japan represent the average weighted maturity of outstanding General Bonds including Treasury Discount Bills and excluding Financing Bills. Data for other countries include short-term (one-year and shorter) bills.
 Note 2: Data for U.K. are calculated on a revenue basis while data for the other countries are calculated on a nominal value basis.
 (Source) OECD

Note 1: Data for Japan represent the average maturity of JGBs for the calendar-based issuance, including Treasury Discount Bills and excluding Financing Bills. Data for the other countries exclude short-term (one-year and shorter) bills.
 Note 2: Data for (Japan) exclude Treasury Discount Bills for adaptation to data for the other countries.
 Note 3: Data are calculated on a nominal value basis.
 (Sources) Estimated by Ministry of Finance based on websites of relevant countries' debt management authorities

6 Breakdown by Government Bond Holders

A significantly large portion of JGBs are held by Japanese domestic investors including financial institutions. Although the percentage of JGBs held by foreign investors has been on an uptrend recently, it remains at the low level of approximately 12%. On the contrary, bonds of major foreign countries are held in large part by overseas investors who account for approximately 40% in the U.S., approximately 50% in Germany and France (Fig.c6-7).

Fig.c6-7 Breakdown of government bonds by holder category



Note: Japanese government bonds include Fiscal Investment and Loan Program Bonds and Treasury Discount Bills (T-Bills). Data for the U.S. exclude government-held (but include non-marketable government bonds held by the Federal Government Employee Retirement Funds, etc.). In Germany and France, the total covers municipal bonds (The central bank's share in France is not made available).
 (Sources) Japan: Bank of Japan, U.S.: Federal Reserve Board, U.K.: Office for National Statistics, UK Debt Management Office, Germany: Deutsche Bundesbank, France: Banque de France)

7 Primary Dealer System

Primary dealers (“PDs”) originally referred to government-certified dealers in the U.S. Companies designated as PDs are entitled to directly trade with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York when it conducts open market operations and to exchange opinions by participating in periodic meetings with the authorities. At the same time, candidates for PD designation are examined beforehand for their ability to provide market-making services, financial conditions, auction participation records, etc. and after the designation, certain obligations, such as bidding for government bonds, market making and providing information to the authorities, are placed on PDs. In this way, under a certain system, companies with special responsibilities and qualifications in regard to government bond markets are designated as PDs to ensure that the liquidity, efficiency and stability of government bond markets are maintained and improved. Such system is generally called the Primary Dealer System.

Nowadays, various countries have similar systems in place, including Japan’s JGB Market Special Participant Scheme. But PDs’ responsibilities and qualifications vary from country to country as shown below (Fig.c6-8).

Fig.c6-8 Primary Dealer System

		Japan	U.S.	U.K.	Germany (Note1)	France
Name		JGB Market Special Participants	Primary Dealers	Gilt-edged Market Makers (GEMMs)	Bund Issues Auction Group	Spécialistes en Valeurs du Trésor (SVT)
Introduction time		2004	1960	1986	1990	1987
Number of members (as of March 2019)		21 companies	23 companies	18 companies	36 companies	15 companies
Responsibilities	Bidding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in all auctions 5% of total planned issuance amount 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in all auctions Total planned issuance amount / the number of PDs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in all auctions 5% or more of total issuance amount over a rolling 6-month period 	—	Participation in all auctions
	Purchasing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < Short-term > 0.5% or more of total planned issuance amount over a rolling 2-quarter period < Excluding Short-term > 1% or more of the said amount over a rolling 2-quarter period 	—	2% or more of total issuance amount over a rolling 6-month period	0.05% or more of total issuance amount over a rolling 1-year period	2% or more of total issuance amount over a rolling 1-year period (Note 2)
	Market making	Providing sufficient liquidity to the JGB secondary market	Maintain a share of Treasury market making activity of at least 0.25 percent.	Having a 2% or more share in the secondary market over a rolling 6-month period	—	Having a 2% or more share in the secondary market over a rolling 1-year period
	Information provision	Report to the MOF	Report to the New York Fed	Report to the DMO	—	Report to the AFT
Qualifications	Exclusive participation in auction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Price Competitive Auction I (Up to 20% of total issuance amount) Non-Price Competitive Auction II (Up to 15% of total amounts of bids accepted in the competitive auction and Non-Price Competitive Auction I) Liquidity Enhancement Auction Buy-back Auctions, etc. 	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive Auctions Non-Competitive Auctions (Up to 15% of amounts of bids accepted in the competitive auction) Buy-back Auctions Syndication, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive Auctions Non-Competitive Auctions Buy-back Auctions, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive Auctions Non-Competitive Auctions (Up to 25% of amounts of bids accepted in the competitive auction) Syndication, etc.
	Regular meeting, etc.	Meeting with the MOF (quarterly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with the New York Fed (annually) Meeting with U.S. Department of the Treasury (quarterly) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with the HM Treasury (annually) Meeting with DMO (quarterly) 	—	Meeting with the AFT (periodically)

Note 1: Germany's "Bund Issues Auction Group" is similar to the primary dealer system in other countries in that only the group members are allowed to participate in government debt auctions. But the only required qualification for a Bund Issues Auction Group member is a financial institution based in the issuance authorities. Therefore, the German group is viewed as different from the PD group in other countries.

Note 2: Conditions other than those in the table for France's bidding responsibilities include "2% or more of the total issuance amount over the last one year for three of four sectors (short-term, medium-term, long-term and super long-term, and inflation-indexed bonds) and the average for the four sectors at 3% or more of the total issuance amount over the last one year."

(Sources) Relevant countries' debt management authorities

8 Cooperation between Debt Management Authorities

National debt management authorities can exchange information through international conferences sponsored by international organizations.

These conferences include the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) Working Party on Public Debt Management, the IMF (International Monetary Fund) Public Debt Management Forum, the World Bank Government Borrowers Forum and the ADB (Asian Development Bank) Regional Public Debt Management Forum.

The Japanese debt management authorities have attended these international conferences as much as possible. At most of these conferences, Japanese debt management authority officials have given presentations on Japan's Debt Management Policy and proactively shared information and opinions with their foreign counterparts on debt management policies. Japan has served as a member of the steering committee for the OECD Working Party on Public Debt Management. In managing the IMF Public Debt Management Forum held in Tokyo in 2019, Japan, as its host, cooperated with the IMF (See Column 5 "IMF Public Debt Management Forum" (P35)).