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Consideration and Direction of Large Projects by the Science Council of Japan

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Regarding high necessity and importance of large projects in the fields of science, the SCJ (Science Council of Japan) has been considering the better promotion system of such projects in Japan.

This report is to present the results of SCJ three-years considerations, We propose 1) Synthesized promotion of the bottom-up type large-size facility projects mainly in the fields of basic sciences and the top-down type (extra)-large-size facility projects in the fields of applied sciences/ technologies, which have been separately promoted so far. For this purpose we need clearer process in the course of planning, budgeting and promotion. 2) In addition to the "Large-size facility projects" mentioned above, establish and promote "Large-scale research projects" in wide area of sciences as a new type of large project. Based on the above two proposals we present a list of about 40 proposals of large project selected through the extensive investigation in all fields of sciences. This list is the first "Master Plan" of large projects of science produced in Japan.