



**Let us facilitate the use of
ICT accessibility standards**

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Japan already has a set of ICT accessibility standards

- Japanese Industrial Standard (JIS) X8341 series
 - “Guidelines for older persons and persons with disabilities -- information communication equipment, software and services”
 - Part 1: Common Guidelines (2004)
 - Part 2: Information Processing Equipment (2004)
 - Part 3: Web Content (2004)
 - Part 4: Telecommunication Equipment (2005)
 - Part 5: Office Equipment (2006)

What is important is:

- Standards are effective only when they are used in the market

Strategy 1 Including older persons

- 20% of population in Japan is over age 65 that is attractive and big enough as a market
- Older persons can be regarded as people with age-related impairments because various human abilities deteriorate over time
- It is also necessary to include older persons in the information society

Strategy 2

Being global

- Global applicability wakes up industry
- Strategy 2.1: To submit JIS to international standardization organizations in order to pursue global harmonization and to brush up JIS
 - Part 1 to ISO, will start the final voting soon
 - Part 2 to JTC1/SC35. will start the work
 - Part 4 to W3C, to be included in WCAG2.0
 - Part 3 to ITU, approved as F.790
 - Part 5 to JTC1/SC35, will start the final voting soon
- Different views really improve the quality of standards

Strategy 2

Being global (continued)

- Strategy 2.2: To participate in international/regional/national activities
 - JTC1/SWG-A where Japan contributes to develop “User Needs Summary” and “Inventory of Standards”
 - In Europe, became a member of Design for All and Assistive Technology Standardization Coordination Group
 - In USA, became a member of TEITAC
 - Not only sitting in the TEITAC meeting, Japan also submits various contributions and information about international/regional/national activities

Strategy 3

Using government's bargaining power

- Public procurement guidelines
 - Conformance with JIS X8341 series must be evaluated
 - e.g. Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry recently announced procurement of its information system in which it requests tenders to explain how the national accessibility standards are met
- The Basic Law on the Formation of an Advanced Information and Telecommunications Network Society (2000) and the amended Persons with Disabilities Fundamental Law (2004) request accessibility in governmental websites
 - Government has developed Basic Plans and annual implementation plans
 - Local governments also provide accessibility in their websites now

More encouragement and applause are necessary

- “UN ICT Accessibility Product Award” could be our future strategy
- Let us consider the possibility

- Thank you