

## CEO Message

# We create economic and social value through the asset management business

### As a responsible institutional investor

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic created an extremely challenging situation for us. Even now, in 2021, there are no clear signs of the pandemic coming to an end. However, medical professionals, along with many other people and companies, are doing all they can to combat the pandemic, and this has convinced me that we will soon be able to overcome this crisis.

Meanwhile, social changes that are transforming our lifestyles, such as the diversification of work styles symbolized by the growth in remote work and advances in digital transformation, are occurring in a variety of fields. As an asset management firm, we will continue to support initiatives aimed at addressing and overcoming problems through the virtuous cycle of investment (investment chain).

We believe it is important to not only create economic value by helping clients build wealth through our asset management business, but also to support the creation of social value through our portfolio companies. We feel that this will enable sustainable economic growth and the realization of a prosperous society, which will ultimately lead to more affluent lives for our clients.

### Climate Change, Health and Human Rights Initiatives

In 2020, the world once again witnessed the risks that ESG issues can bring. In terms of the environment, there were massive forest fires overseas, and various parts of Japan experienced large-scale flooding due to the prolonged stationary nature of the seasonal rain front.

In October 2020, the Japanese government set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. This and other initiatives are expected to trigger an acceleration in action by companies to combat climate change. In terms of society, not only has the COVID-19 pandemic significantly changed people's awareness with respect to health, but also various types of action are starting to be called for, against the

backdrop of heightened awareness of human rights, including work styles and the working environment in supply chains.

In our ESG Statement, we identified issues including the climate change and issues related to social responsibility as key issues (materiality), and we have been working to solve such problems. In equity investment, we are using impact investing to advance efforts to address climate change, health issues and human rights problems, while in fixed income investment we are expanding our offerings which use ESG investment methods.

### Contribution to the advancement of society through asset management

The essence of the asset management business lies in fulfilling our fiduciary responsibilities and solving social issues through the provision of high quality products, excellent performance and exceptional service that meet clients' expectations. To fulfill this mission, we will continue to work to realize a virtuous cycle of investment (investment chain).

In January 2021, in line with our ESG Statement, we announced our materiality, the key issues that we will address over the medium to long term, based on our corporate principles and our medium-term management strategy. Proactively addressing these issues is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which aim to create social value by addressing the issues that exist among various stakeholders through business activities, in addition to pursuing economic value through those business activities.

Nomura Asset Management aims to be the Japanese asset management firm of choice for clients around the world. Anchored by our corporate principles of "Maximizing Value," "Advanced Expertise," and "Confidence and Responsibility," we will continue to push forward with our responsible investment initiatives to enhance the corporate value of our portfolio companies and realize a sustainable society.



## Hiroyasu Koike

President & CEO  
Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd.

### Corporate Princi

Maximizing Value  
Advanced Expertise  
Confidence and Responsibility

### Corporate Slogan

## Expertise to Exceed<sup>1</sup>

Using our expertise and foresight to stay ahead of change,  
we pursue exceptional performance and  
create cutting-edge solutions to exceed all expectations.