

## **CEO MESSAGE**

## Striving to be an asset management firm that makes the world a better place

The year 2024 was a year of significant transition from "stagnation" to "dynamism." In the Japanese economy, the rate of inflation is now continuous rising, leading to a major shift in monetary policy backed by wage growth, thus clearly marking the exit from deflation. Politically, various countries, including the United States, are experiencing changes in administrations as well as financial and fiscal schemes, resulting in corrections to numerous policies. While adaptation to these various changes is required, it is increasingly important for Nomura Asset Management, which aims to be "An asset management firm that makes the world a better place," to maintain a steadfast commitment to our core objective: providing products and services that contribute to asset formation through enhancing corporate value via ESG and other measures, and improving investment returns. We believe that it is crucial to continuously pursue this goal without wavering, thereby ensuring a virtuous investment cycle.

As a responsible investor, we aim to balance social value and economic value through our asset management business. The core concept driving the creation of social value, or solving social issues, is the investment chain. Companies that generate economic profits are expected to contribute to a sustainable and prosperous society. Asset management companies play a crucial role in creating a positive investment cycle by connecting

investors and companies through investments, thus contributing to the realization of a sustainable and prosperous society. This is the concept of the investment chain that we uphold. To support this positive cycle, constructive dialogue—known as "engagement"—between asset management companies and investee companies is essential. We aim to promote the enhancement of corporate value through such dialogue by supporting companies' efforts towards realizing ESG and SDGs. Not only as a responsible institutional investor, but also as an asset management firm that makes the world a better place, we will continue to embrace change without fear and work to provide the best ESG products, as well as enhance corporate value and build a sustainable society.

Nomura Holdings will celebrate its 100th anniversary in December 2025. In line with this milestone, and looking towards the next 100 years, we have been engaging in discussions across the entire group since 2021 to reflect on Nomura's significance and future role in society. After many discussions, the Nomura Group formulated the purpose: "We aspire to create a better world by harnessing the power of financial markets." As a member of the Nomura Group, Nomura Asset Management is determined to continue our efforts, alongside all of our customers and other stakeholders, to truly realize this purpose.

## Expertise to Exceed '

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