

**(12) Risks Associated with Compliance****i) Risks Related to Laws and Regulations**

ITOCHU Group is subject to a number of diverse laws and regulations both domestically and overseas due to the vast array of products and services the Group provides. To be specific, ITOCHU Group is required to adhere to laws and regulations such as the laws for each industry, all laws pertaining to trade such as foreign exchange control laws, antitrust laws, intellectual property laws, waste disposal laws and the laws of each country in which ITOCHU Group conducts business overseas. ITOCHU Group is aware that the observance of laws and regulations is a serious obligation on the part of the Company and the Group has committed every effort into the observance of these laws and regulations through the compliance program that the Group has created. Despite this, ITOCHU cannot deny that additional regulations or abrupt changes in regulations by legislative, judicial, and regulatory bodies are a possibility both domestically and overseas. Also there are possibilities of major change in laws and regulation by political/economical changes. This could exert a serious, adverse influence on the financial position and results of operations of ITOCHU Group.

**ii) Risks Related to the Environment**

ITOCHU Group has designated global environmental issues as one of the most important elements of its management policy. The Group is actively working on environmental issues designated by ITOCHU's environmental policy to deal with the risk of infringement of laws and regulations pertaining to the environment by each business, the destruction of the natural environment by natural resource development, real estate development and goods and service. Despite these efforts, ITOCHU Group cannot guarantee that the Group's business activities will not affect the world environment, and ITOCHU cannot completely avoid the possibility that the opposition of environmental protection groups will impede the business growth. Should such events occur, the ITOCHU Group could suffer the loss of public trust and could suffer serious adverse effects on the financial position and results of operations of ITOCHU Group.

**(13) Risks Associated with Information Systems and Information Security**

In ITOCHU Group, a code of conduct concerning the handling of information is enforced on all directors and employees and high priority is placed on maintaining a high information security level in the Company. ITOCHU has established information systems to facilitate the sharing of information internally within the Group and externally with clients, and to improve the efficiency of operations. In order to maintain a secure operation of ITOCHU's information systems, ITOCHU has established firewalls to prevent outside intrusions to the network, established security guidelines, and has developed crisis control measures.

Despite these measures, ITOCHU cannot completely avoid the possibility of unauthorized access from the outside, the leakage of sensitive company information due to

computer viruses, or operational failure of the system due to damage to information system equipment arising from natural disasters or accidents or from trouble with telecommunications circuitry. If such events occur, this could cause a deterioration of operational efficiency, and depending on the seriousness of the damage, could result in a serious adverse effect on the financial position and results of operations of ITOCHU Group.