Critical Accounting Policies

The Company's consolidated financial statements are prepared in conformity with U.S. GAAP. In preparation of the consolidated financial statements, the management of the Company is required to make a number of estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, contingent assets and liabilities as of each balance sheet date, and revenues and expenses in each reporting period. Management periodically verifies and makes a review of its estimates, judgments and assumptions based on the available information that is considered to be reasonable by judging from historical experiences and circumstances. These estimates, judgments and assumptions, however, which are often accompanied by uncertainties, may differ from actual results. These differences may have an effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements and performances of every operating segment. The following accounting policies related to estimates, judgments and assumptions that management believes may materially affect consolidated financial statements.

Evaluation of Investments

Investment balance and profit from investments are important factors in the Company's consolidated financial statements and therefore, accounting judgment on evaluation of investments has a substantial impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements. ITOCHU evaluates marketable securities based on their fair values. The difference between carrying amount and fair value is reported in the consolidated statements of operations for trading securities, while differences net of tax are reported in stockholders' equity as unrealized holding gains on securities, for available-for-sale securities. When ITOCHU judges that the price decrease of marketable securities is other than temporary, considering severity and duration of decline in the fair value against carrying amount, impairment losses are recognized for the devaluation of this value.

For the impairment of non-marketable securities, judgment of an other-than-temporary decline is conducted after a comprehensive consideration of the magnitude of the decrease in terms of net asset value, the financial conditions of the invested companies, and the outlook for their future performance.

For the impairment of marketable investments in equity-method investments, in accordance with U.S. Accounting Principles Board Opinions No.18, as is the case for impairment of long-lived assets, ITOCHU judges whether or not a price decrease is other than temporary not only by measuring the magnitude of the decrease in market value but also comprehensively considering the possibility of collection based on the estimated future cash flows generated from the investment.

The management of the Company believes these investment evaluations are rational. However, difference in estimates such as estimated future cash flows due to unforeseen changes in business conditions may impair the value of investments and have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Provision for Doubtful Receivables

Trade receivables including notes and accounts, in addition to loans, represent a large amount in the Company's consolidated balance sheets, and provision for doubtful receivables is an important factor in the Company's consolidated statements of operations. Therefore, accounting judgment on evaluation of receivables has a substantial impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

In the Company, the credit department of each Division Company, which is independent of business departments of each Division Company, manages and evaluates credit risk from both quantitative and qualitative perspectives, monitoring regularly the credit limit and the current condition of trade receivables, and reviewing regularly the current condition of debt collection and delinquency to discuss and record the required provision for doubtful receivables. The Company estimates the recoverable amount and records the required provision for doubtful receivables, after comprehensively considering the status of collection, past insolvency record, financial conditions of debtors and value of collateral.

The management of the Company believes that these estimations of provisions for doubtful receivables are rational. However, deterioration of the debtors' financial conditions and decreases in estimated collateral value due to unpredictable changes in business conditions may reduce the recoverable amounts from the latest estimation, and an increase in provision for doubtful receivables may have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Deferred Income Taxes

Deferred tax assets are an important factor in the Company's consolidated balance sheets. Therefore, accounting judgment on evaluation of deferred income taxes has a substantial impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements. To consider record of allowance for deferred tax assets, ITOCHU reports the realizable amount of deferred income taxes, taking into consideration future taxable income and feasible tax planning strategies. To evaluate realizable amount, it considers information such as historical records and any available information related to the future.

The management of the Company believes these estimations of realizable amount of deferred income taxes are rational. However, allowance for deferred income taxes may increase or decrease depending on changes in taxable income during the tax planning period and changes in tax planning strategies, which may have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

If a part of the carrying amount is determined to be unrecoverable due to changes in the situation for long-lived assets used for business and intangible assets whose useful lives are finite, ITOCHU recognizes the impairment of longlived assets based on fair value by calculating the sum of the outcome of the use of the long-lived asset and future cash flows (before discounts) resulting from its sale, and in case the sum falls below the carrying amount.

The management of the Company believes these calculations of estimated future cash flows and fair value have been done in a rational manner. However, fluctuations in estimated future cash flows and fair value due to unpredictable changes in business conditions may reduce the evaluation of long-lived assets, which may have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.