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Request for understanding and cooperation regarding knowledge-based value expenditures
and indirect expenses

RIKEN

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your continued support and cooperation in our research and development activities.

In recent years, the focus of value in economic society has shifted from tangible goods to experiences, marking a paradigm shift from the capital-intensive industrial society that supported the rapid economic growth of the 20th century to a knowledge-intensive industrial society. To respond to this changing landscape, it has become increasingly necessary to create breakthrough solutions that go beyond the mere extension of existing technologies. Achieving this requires new insights from basic science more than ever. Furthermore, amid significant changes in the economic and social environment, numerous examples have emerged where cutting-edge scientific achievements and the new technologies developed from them have directly led to the creation and rapid growth of new industries.

In this context, as a comprehensive research institution for basic science, RIKEN aims to further strengthen value creation by promptly and accurately connecting cutting-edge scientific achievements to economic and social development, including industrial innovation. Furthermore, based on the supplementary edition (June 2020) of the “Guidelines for Strengthening Collaborative Research through Industry-Academia-Government Partnerships” issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), which advocated valuing the “knowledge” held by researchers and others, universities and research institutions have been advancing the introduction of “knowledge-based value expenditures” in joint research agreements and other agreements.

Taking these circumstances into consideration, RIKEN will introduce “knowledge-based value expenditures” from fiscal year 2025 for expenses corresponding to the added value brought by scientific and technological knowledge in joint research, etc. and other collaborations. Additionally, regarding indirect expenses, considering that it has become common practice for universities and research institutions to allocate indirect expenses of at least 30% when collaborating with external organizations, RIKEN intends to revise its previous policy from “at least 20%” to “at least 30%.”

We kindly ask for your understanding of the purpose of this revision concerning knowledge-based value expenditures and indirect expenses.

Moving forward, RIKEN will continue to promote cutting-edge scientific research in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders, contributing to solving social challenges and advancing the well-being of the public and humanity as a whole.