

Outline of interim report regarding trade practices on digital platforms

B2B trade on online retail platforms (Result of a survey responded by sellers)	B2B trade on app stores (Result of a survey responded by apps vendors)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many respondents said that the contract for opening stores and selling products on the platforms “was unilaterally revised” by the operators and <u>“there were unfavorable contents” in the revision.</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many respondents said that the contract for providing apps and digital content on the app stores “was unilaterally revised” by the operators, and a certain amount of respondents said that <u>“there were unfavorable contents” in the revision.</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many respondents said that <u>when the operators rejected a request for opening stores or selling products from sellers, “they didn’t receive an explanation”</u> of the reason for the rejection. Many respondents out of those who received the explanation also said that <u>it was “not convincing”.</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While many respondents said that <u>when the operators rejected a request for providing apps and digital content,</u> “they received an explanation of the reason for the rejection”, many respondents who received such an explanation said that <u>it was “not convincing”.</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A certain amount of respondents said that <u>“they had received a request or direction” for their selling price or product variety on the platforms</u> from the operators. Many respondents said that <u>an explanation for the need for their request or direction was “not convincing”.</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many respondents said on <u>the commission</u> paid to the app store operators that the rate of it is <u>“30%”out of the price which the users pay for the apps and digital content.</u> As for problems regarding the commission, many respondents pointed out that <u>“the rate of it is high”.</u>

What the JFTC is looking into in the future would be...

- The JFTC will conduct **further fact-finding survey including interviewing from the operators of platforms to understand the situation well** and will organize our thoughts on the Anti-Monopoly Act and competition policy in Japan from the viewpoint of;
 - Whether the operators impose unfair disadvantage to the sellers or vendors who can’t choose but use the platform.**
 - Whether the operators, who also act as a provider of their products or apps on the platform, exclude unfairly their competitors who provide competing products or apps** with products or apps sold by the operators on the platform.
 - Whether the operators restrict unfairly the business activities** of the sellers or vendors.
 - Whether transparency of trade terms between the operators and the sellers or vendors is sufficiently secured.**
- The JFTC is carefully taking it into consideration that a result of a survey for users (consumers) of digital platforms which shows, for example, a lot of the users expressed concerns about collection, use and management of their personal information or utilization data by the operators. Based upon such points, **the JFTC will continue to examine how the concept of unjust use of superior bargaining position may apply to the platform-to-consumer relationship.**