

Report on the Fact-finding Survey on the Trading Environment for Creators at Film and Anime Production Sites

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Japan Fair Trade Commission

Chapter 1 Survey purpose

Content such as films, anime, music, and broadcast programs are assets that Japan should be proud of, but the Content Industry Revitalization Strategy (established and stated in the "Grand Design and Action Plan for a New Form of Capitalism 2024 Revised Version," Cabinet decision of June 21, 2024) states that "an environment in which creators can work sustainably with peace of mind has not yet been developed. We will develop an environment in which the creativity of our country's creators can be maximized," and "In order to develop a trading environment that maximizes the creativity of individual creators of film and anime, etc., a fact-finding survey on the trading environment for creators at film and anime production sites will be conducted from the beginning of next year (2025), following the fact-finding survey in the field of music and broadcast programs."

Taking this situation into consideration, the Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) conducted fact-finding surveys into the actual trading fields related to film and anime production in order to develop a trading environment that maximizes the creativity of individual creators.

Chapter 2 Survey results

Please refer to the main report, overview, and key points.

Chapter 3 Response from the Japan Fair Trade Commission

Along with the publication of this report, the contents of this report were made known to the member companies of production committees, production companies, relevant trade associations related to freelancers, and others with a view to preventing conduct that may be problematic under the Anti-Monopoly Act, the SME Transactions Act (which changed its name from the Subcontract Act on January 1, 2026), and the Act on the Improvement of Transactions between Freelancers and Enterprises.

In addition, in order to ensure that efforts to resolve the problems outlined in this report are made, the JFTC will closely monitor the progress of efforts by relevant businesses in cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies, and will take strict and appropriate action in the event of any violations of the Anti-Monopoly Act or other laws.

Based on the contents of this report, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry plans to formulate and publish guidelines that outline specific approaches to the Anti-Monopoly Act, the SME Transactions Act, The Act on the Improvement of Transactions between Freelancers and Enterprises, and competition policy.

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