

Product Information R&D Sustainability

About Us Investor Relations Car

Careers

Home > Sustainability Website > Sustainability Report 2021 > Compliance

News

# Corporate Statements Points of Corporate Governance Updated Message from the Outside Executives The Kuraray Group Risk Management Updated Compliance TOP STATEMENT Tax Policy Tax Policy Materiality of Kuraray Group Gourante Statement Updated

Planet

Product

People

### Governance

Points of Corporate Governance

Message from the Outside Executives

Risk Management

Compliance

Tax Policy

GRI Standards Content Index

Kuraray Report (integrated report) / Sustainability website

Initiatives, etc.

Tax Policy
Compliance

# **Group Compliance**

"Our Commitment" states the principles of our conduct which we should adhere to in our business activities that have diverse points of contact with society. The "Kuraray Group Code of Conduct" serves as guidelines to implement the commitment in performing day-to-day work. The President has declared that we will comply with laws and regulations and "Our Commitment" under all circumstances. To share these principles and commitments among all Kuraray Group employees throughout the world, the Compliance Handbook has been compiled containing the foregoing declaration by the President and explanations of the "Kuraray Group Code of Conduct" and distributed to all employees in Japan and overseas.

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In addition, we have appointed compliance officers at plants and overseas offices of Kuraray and Group companies, and have organized regional compliance committees. Since fiscal 2019, we have linked the timing of the activities of the regional compliance committee and Risk Management and Compliance Committee to raise awareness of compliance throughout the Group

# Whistleblower System

The Kuraray Group has the Kuraray Group Employee Counseling Room in place for all employees of the Kuraray Group in Japan (including contract employees, temporary employees, and part-time employees) as a whistleblower system to prevent or detect and resolve compliance violations at an early stage.



In addition, we established the Global Compliance Hotline, which is available to all Group employees across the globe, in response to the rapid progress of globalization. The whistleblower system handles all issues on compliance reported from employees, such as business transaction in general (e.g., bribery/corruption), violation of company rules, and personnel affairs including respect for human rights and harassment.

As established by the Guideline for the Operation of the Kuraray Group Employee Counseling Room and the Guideline for the Operation of the Global Compliance Hotline, they can report anonymously and are protected from any disadvantageous treatment that may occur due to the report.



# **Thorough Compliance Measures**

## Efforts to Comply with the Antimonopoly Act

We seriously and sincerely accept the gravity of the violations of the Antimonopoly Act on two recent occasions, consider compliance with the Antimonopoly Act to be one of the highest-priority management risks, make every effort to prevent recurrence through a range of measures, and are developing and strengthening compliance programs throughout the Kuraray Group.

In fiscal 2020, in order to establish an effective global system for complying with the Antimonopoly Law, we carried out measures at each of the Kuraray Group companies around the world, such as the establishment of related internal rules, education and training for officers and employees, risk assessments for each business, and audit of businesses that participate in bidding. From fiscal 2021 onward, the entire Kuraray Group will continue to ensure that the Antimonopoly Act Compliance Program is enforced and thoroughly monitor compliance systems in high-risk businesses and fields.

### Status of implementation of priority measures in fiscal 2020

- Established and updated various internal rules regarding compliance with the Antimonopoly Act
- Assessed the Antimonopoly Law risks in each business
- Assessed the Antimonopoly Law risks through trading associations, etc.
- Conducted annual audits of public bidding tenders
- Provided training for officers
- Hosted seminars for employees engaged in sales, etc.
- Applied the in-house leniency program for participants of the seminars and obtained a declaration from them to comply with the Antimonopoly Law
- Expanded the management rotation program for certain departments (in Japan only) in order to prevent the risk of fraud, including violation of the Antimonopoly Act

## Anti-Bribery Initiatives

The development and strengthening of an anti-bribery program is an ongoing objective that must be addressed by the entire Kuraray Group, and we recognize it as a management risk. In the Kuraray Group Code of Conduct, action guidelines to prevent bribery and that cover the handling of donations and gifts are declared, and the basic policy against bribery is set forth in the Kuraray Group Global Anti-Bribery Policy. In accordance with these basic policies, each company of the Kuraray Group will focus on developing and operating an anti-bribery program, including development of relevant internal rules, education and training for officers and employees, and the evaluation and management of bribery risks conducted through third parties. We have signed the United Nations Global Compact and will continue to work to further strengthen anti-corruption activities.

# **Compliance Seminar**

Since fiscal 2017, departmental compliance education and seminars have been provided once a year to all Group employees in Japan (including contract employees, temporary employees, and part-time employees), with the aim of improving communication and openness within the department. In fiscal 2020, the seminar was held on the Internet for managers of the Group companies in Japan due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through dialogue with external lecturers, participants learned why it is necessary to foster awareness of compliance and aimed at a level where they can speak about the importance of compliance in their own words to their subordinates. In the group discussion held in the latter half of the seminar, participants engaged in lively discussions on topics of high interest such as new risks after COVID-19, information security, and harassment. Subsequently, the participants brought back the knowledge and awareness they had gained at the seminar to their departments, and through interactive departmental education they sought to boost their awareness of compliance and improve communication.



### About Us

# Corporate Overview Message from the President Corporate Statements Executives Organization Chart History Awards and Accolades Main Group Locations Corporate Profile Video covid19

# **Product Information**

Search by Business Search by Product Name Search by Key Word

# **Basic Policy**

R&D

Technologies and Products Organization Progress Highlights

### Sustainability

**Corporate Statements** Kuraray Group Code of Conduct

Kuraray Group Human **Rights Policy** 

TOP STATEMENT

Sustainability Long-term Vision and Sustainability Medium-term Plan

Materiality of Kuraray Group

Planet

Product

People

Governance

GRI Standards Content Index

Kuraray Report (integrated report) / Sustainability website

### **Investor Relations**

Management Policies

IR News

Learn about Kuraray

Results and Financial Information

IR Library

Stock Data

IR Calendar

FAO

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