

Message from the Chief Sustainability Officer

Message from the Chief Sustainability Officer

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Corporate ESG initiatives are becoming increasingly significant amid emerging global risks, such as the spread of COVID-19, that see no end in sight and a rising number of natural disasters in recent years caused by extreme global weather conditions.

Recognizing their significance, SoftBank Group Corp. built an internal foundation and enhanced information disclosure in fiscal 2020 to further strengthen ESG initiatives. In June 2020, I was appointed as Chief Sustainability Officer (CSusO), and we established our Sustainability Committee. Since then, we have gained a better understanding of the ESG initiatives that had been undertaken separately by each Group company, discussed them at the management level, and began establishing Group-wide policies and targets.

On the environmental front, our major subsidiaries have already taken proactive measures to fight climate change, such as expanding renewable energy businesses and setting targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We believe that now is the time to take more concrete action, and in fiscal 2020, we achieved carbon neutrality. In the future, we will take further steps, such as defining climate-related group targets, as we work to reduce the environmental impact of the entire Group.

Also, as one of our key initiatives as an investment company, we revised the “Portfolio Company Governance and Investment Guidelines Policy” to incorporate ESG perspectives into our investment process in May 2021. We made it clear that both opportunities and risks arising from environmental and social factors should be evaluated within the investment and monitoring process. In the same manner, as we meet the expectations and demands of investors and other stakeholders and enhance our ESG initiatives, we believe that proactively encouraging our portfolio companies to take ESG initiatives will contribute significantly to the sustainable development of society as a whole and the sustainable development of the Group. Going forward, we will formulate specific implementation plans to evaluate opportunities and risks at each of our investment business subsidiaries.

We are now at the implementation stage to realize our ESG goals and policies. In addition to further enhancing nonfinancial information disclosure, we will strive to strengthen our ESG initiatives throughout the Group so that we can report our progress to investors and other stakeholders.

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