Business and Human Rights

As a global company that operates its business globally, NEC believes that it is imperative for us to mitigate and prevent any negative impacts our corporate activities may have on human rights. Guided by this belief, NEC makes it clear that it endeavors to respect human rights under all circumstances in the NEC Group Charter of Corporate Behavior and the NEC Group Code of Conduct, which are the foundations of its corporate activities. The “NEC Group Human Rights Policy” states that NEC will promote initiatives on respecting human rights across the Company’s entire value chain by dialogue and consultation with its stakeholders and implementing human rights due diligence.

Dialogue with External Experts on Privacy Issues

The increased use of AI and IoT brings a risk of privacy infringements and negative impact on human rights in the form of discrimination. Privacy is one of the Company’s materiality issues, and in April 2018 we held a dialogue session based on the theme of “Privacy-related challenges for business.”

During the dialogue, we heard opinions pointing out that “the flipside of technology is that there are ethical issues and NEC is called upon to communicate its stance,” also that “it is important to include consideration of ethical issues in business and to develop these as competitive strengths.” Furthermore, we heard a strong message that “the future era of manufacturing is one of QCD*E, and people would like companies to change their values towards E*thics and E*cology while considering whether they have properly prioritized human aspects ahead of technology, or whether they have put ethical perspectives on the back-burner.”

* QCD: Quality, Cost, Delivery

Compliance with the UK Modern Slavery Act

NEC also complies with international rules and regulations on human rights. NEC issued the statement on the UK Modern Slavery Act on behalf of itself and its consolidated subsidiaries in 2017. The statement asserts that NEC Group companies respect human rights and will never accept forced labor based on the NEC Group Charter of Corporate Behavior, the NEC Group Code of Conduct and the NEC Group Human Rights Policy. It also explains the various measures implemented to prevent modern slavery within the NEC Group organization and across its supply chain.

I Want to Contribute to Social Development in Africa

During my student days, I participated in an internship at an African NGO and I have wanted to contribute to the lives of African people ever since. Since joining the Company, I have been responsible for overall sales in the East African region. In my second year, I was posted to Nairobi in Kenya for on-the-job training, and there I learned sales skills such as proposing, negotiating, and responding flexibly through serving local customers.

NEC has been helping to enhance telecoms networks in Africa. Having a telecoms environment has enabled the rapid spread of new services such as mobile money. When I see this startling pace of development in Africa, it really impresses me with the huge potential that ICT brings to society.

Meanwhile, we are currently focused on the safety business utilizing biometrics. I am working each day to try and make daily life safer and more secure for people using ICT, while giving consideration to human rights such as privacy.

Assistant Manager, Africa Business Development Office, Safer City Sales Division, NEC

Miho Hara

As a mother with one child, I work short hours and so I strive to make my work more efficient.