

Sixth Climate Change Study Session held under the theme of 'Reality and Challenges of ESG Investment'

To promote the decarbonization transition to achieve Net Zero by 2050, the General Insurance Association of Japan (GIAJ) held an online study session on May 23 with 421 participants from its member companies. (The study sessions have been held on a regular basis since July 2021.)

Prof. Takeshi Mizuguchi of Takasaki City University of Economics, who chairs the Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance of the Financial Services Agency, gave a presentation entitled 'Reality and Challenges of ESG Investment', which focused on the following topics:

- Background of the need for ESG investment
- Current status of ESG and impact investment initiatives and issues
- Growing global momentum towards ESG, and anti-ESG movements
- Progress of non-financial information disclosure in Japan and overseas

In his opening address, Mr. Kenji Watanabe, Chairman of the Planning Sub-Committee of the GIAJ, stated that ESG investment has been attracting attention as a way to evaluate and invest in long-term sustainability from the perspectives of the environment, society and governance, and continues to increase both in Japan and overseas. He also expressed his hope that this workshop would provide an important opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding of the realities and challenges of ESG investment and to learn how to respond to these issues in light of the current situation.

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