Dear All,

National Cancer Research Institute launched a new initiative in 2016 called the Endeavor¹ Project. The main goal of the project is to further accelerate three key endeavors: 1) Development of new therapies and biomarkers through basic and translational research; 2) Systematic development of cancer cell lines, cancer model animals and pre-clinical research; and 3) Practical application of genomic medicine. This will be accomplished by facilitating greater coordination with National Cancer Center Hospital and Hospital East, and collaboration with academic researchers and private corporations.

Construction on our new research center, a hub for this coordination and collaboration, is currently underway with a scheduled completion date of March 2017. Funding has been received from the central government for a part of the construction costs. However, since becoming an incorporated administrative agency, the grants we receive to cover operating expenses, the main source of the institute's funding, have been cut back and our own funds are short of what is needed. At the same time, because we are an incorporated administrative agency, we are able now to accept donations from everyone who supports the National Cancer Center's projects and initiatives. In light of the changes taking place in the research environment, we would like to take this opportunity to ask you to consider making a donation.

Your donation will be used to develop infrastructure for the new research center. To express our gratitude, all donors will be invited to attend events taking place there. You will also be given the option to have your name inscribed on a nameplate at the new building of the center so that your contribution will be honored in perpetuity<sup>2</sup>.

The support we receive from generous donors forms a solid foundation for the National Cancer Center. We wholeheartedly ask for your support for developing innovative cancer therapies in Japan sooner.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Hiroyuki Mano, M.D., Ph.D.

Director

National Cancer Research Institute

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Notes

1 "Endeavor": Exploring a New Frontier in cancer research and developing an Innovation in Cancer Therapy with Patients, Social and Industry Leaders

2 For over  $\mbox{\em $\mu$}$  100,000 of donation