Act on Promotion of Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts

(Act No. 115 of December 26, 2016)

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Chapter I General Provisions

(Purpose)

Article 1 The purpose of this Act is to promote the development of specified integrated resort districts comprehensively and in a centralized manner by setting forth the basic principles and basic policies, and other basic matters for promoting the development of the specified integrated resort districts along with establishing the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts, considering that the promotion will contribute to the advancement of tourism and regional economies while facilitating the improvement of public finance.

(Definitions)

Article 2 (1) The term "specified integrated resort" as used in this Act means facilities integrating casino facilities (limited to those established and operated in the specified integrated resort district by a private business operator as permitted by the Casino Regulatory Commission set forth in Article 11 as specified separately by law; the same applies hereinafter), convention and conference facilities, recreation facilities, exhibition facilities, accommodation facilities and other facilities that are deemed to contribute to the advancement of tourism, and which are established and operated by a private business operator.

(2) The term "specified integrated resort district" as used in this Act means the areas approved by the national government as areas where the specified integrated resort may be established, based on an application filed by a local government as specified separately by law.

(Basic Principles)

Article 3 Specified integrated resort districts are to be developed according to the basic principles of realizing attractive stay-type tourism which is highly competitive in the international market by utilizing the creativity of regions and the vitality of the private sector, contributing to the advancement of regional economies, and ensuring the return of profits from sound casino facilities operated under appropriate supervision and control by the national government to society.

(Responsibilities of the National Government)

Article 4 The national government is responsible for promoting the development of specified integrated resort districts in accordance with the basic principles set forth in the preceding Article.

(Legislative Measures)

Article 5 The government is to promote the development of specified integrated resort districts based on the provisions of the following Chapter, and take measures necessary therefor. In this case, the necessary legislative measures must be aimed to be taken within one year from the enforcement of this Act.

Chapter II Basic Matters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts

Section 1 Basic Policies for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts

(Formation of Attractive Tourist Destinations Highly Competitive in the International Market)

Article 6 The government is to take necessary measures to ensure that specified integrated resort districts are making use of regional characteristics while being equipped with core functions for forming an attractive tourist destination which is truly highly competitive in the international market.

(Reinforcement of International Competitiveness of the Tourism Industry and Advancement of Regional Economies)

Article 7 The government is to take measures to make use of private sector funds, management ability and technological competency, and other necessary measures to ensure that the development of specified integrated resort districts facilitates the reinforcement of international competitiveness of the tourism industry and other relevant industries in Japan, an increase of job opportunities, and the vitalization of regional economies.

(Respect for Overall Concept of Local Government)

Article 8 The government is to take necessary measures to reflect excellent overall concepts proposed by local governments for the development of specified integrated resort districts (including the selection of contractors to establish and operate the specified integrated resort) in the promotion of the development of specified integrated resort districts.

(Regulations Imposed on Persons Affiliated with Casino Facilities)

Article 9 A person who intends to establish and operate casino facilities (including a person who intends to engage in a business for establishing and operating the casino facilities), a person who intends to manufacture, import or distribute casino-related devices, and a person who intends to provide services to visitors to casino facilities (hereinafter referred to as a "person affiliated with casino facilities") must follow the regulations of the Casino Regulatory Commission set forth in Article 11 as specified separately by law.

(Regulations Concerning Establishment and Operation of Casino Facilities)

Article 10 (1) The government is to take necessary measures concerning the following matters in relation to the establishment and operation of casino facilities, from the viewpoints of appropriately preventing wrongful acts in casino facilities and eliminating harmful effects resulting from the establishment and operation of casino facilities:

(i) matters concerning standards necessary for ensuring fairness of the games played at casino facilities;

(ii) matters concerning appropriate use of chips and other cash equivalents used at casino facilities;

(iii) matters concerning the regulations necessary for eliminating organized crime group members or other persons whose involvement in casino facilities is inappropriate from persons affiliated with casino facilities and visitors to casino facilities;

(iv) matters concerning the development of equipment, organization and other systems for surveillance and crime-prevention conducted by persons establishing and operating casino facilities, for the purpose of preventing crime and of reporting;

(v) matters concerning regulations necessary for maintaining public morals, etc.;

(vi) matters concerning regulations on advertisement and promotion;

(vii) matters dissemination of knowledge necessary for the protection of young people and other measures necessary for promoting their sound upbringing; and

(viii) matters concerning measures necessary for preventing gambling addictions and other adverse effects which visitors to casino facilities may suffer due to use of the facilities.

(2) Beyond what is provided for in the preceding paragraph, the government is to take measures for establishing the scope of persons permitted to visit casino facilities and other measures necessary in relation to entry into casino facilities, from the viewpoint of preventing adverse effects caused by use of casino facilities by or for persons other than foreign tourists.

Section 2 Basic Characteristics and Duties of Casino Regulatory Commission

Article 11 The Casino Regulatory Commission is to be established under the Cabinet Office as an external organ as specified separately by law, and is to impose regulations on persons affiliated with casino facilities to maintain order and ensure safety related to the establishment and operation of casino facilities.

Section 3 Payments to the Government

(Payments to Government)

Article 12 The national government and the local government may collect payments from a person establishing and operating casino facilities as specified separately by law.

(Admission Fees)

Article 13 The national government and local governments may collect admission fees for casino facilities from visitors as specified separately by law.

Chapter III Headquarters for Promoting Development of Integrated Resort Districts

(Establishment)

Article 14 The Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts (hereinafter referred to as the "headquarters") is established within the Cabinet for promoting the development of specified integrated resort districts comprehensively and in a centralized manner.

(Affairs under Jurisdiction of the Headquarters)

Article 15 (1) The headquarters takes charge of the following affairs:

(i) matters concerning overall coordination for promoting the development of specified integrated resort districts;

(ii) matters concerning the planning of bills or proposal of Cabinet Orders necessary to promote the development of specified integrated resort districts comprehensively and in a centralized manner; and

(iii) matters concerning liaison and coordination with relevant organizations and groups for promoting the development of the specified integrated resort districts.

(2) For matters concerning the headquarters, the competent minister as stipulated in the Cabinet Act (Act No. 5 of 1947) is the Prime Minister.

(Organization)

Article 16 The headquarters consists of the Director-General of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts, the Vice Director-Generals of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts, and members of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts.

(Director-General of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts)

Article 17 (1) The headquarters is headed by the Director-General of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of specified integrated resort districts (hereinafter referred to as the "Director-General"), and the Prime Minister serves in this capacity.

(2) The Director-General is in charge of general coordination of the affairs of the headquarters, and directs and supervises the relevant officials.

(Vice Director-Generals of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts)

Article 18 (1) The Vice Director-Generals of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts (hereinafter referred to as the "Vice Director-Generals") are assigned in the headquarters, and are appointed from among the ministers of state.

(2) The Vice Director-Generals assist the duties of the Director-General.

(Members of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts)

Article 19 (1) Members of the Headquarters for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts (hereinafter referred to as "members") are assigned in the headquarters.

(2) All of the ministers of state other than the Director-General and the Vice Director-Generals serve in the capacity of the members.

(Submission of Materials and Other Cooperation)

Article 20 (1) When the headquarters finds it necessary for performing the affairs under its jurisdiction, it may require the submission of materials, a statement of opinions, explanations, and other required cooperation from the heads of the relevant administrative organs, local governments, incorporated administrative agencies (meaning the incorporated administrative agencies as provided in Article 2, paragraph (1) of the Act on General Rules for Incorporated Administrative Agencies (Act No. 103 of 1999)), and local incorporated administrative agencies (meaning the local incorporated administrative agencies as provided in Article 2, paragraph (1) of the Local Incorporated Administrative Agencies Act (Act No. 118 of 2003)), and the representatives of special corporations (meaning corporations directly incorporated by law or corporations incorporated by special law with a special act of incorporation, to which the provisions of Article 4, paragraph (1), item (ix) of the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Act No. 91 of 1999) apply).

(2) When the headquarters finds it particularly necessary for performing the affairs under its jurisdiction, it may ask for necessary cooperation from persons other than those prescribed in the preceding paragraph.

(Council for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts)

Article 21 (1) The Council for Promoting Development of Specified Integrated Resort Districts (hereinafter referred to as the "promotion council") is established within the headquarters.

(2) The promotion council consists of 20 members or less who are appointed by the Prime Minister from among those who have relevant knowledge and experience.

(3) The promotion council is to study and deliberate important matters concerning measures taken to promote the development of the specified integrated resort districts and state its opinion to the Director-General.

(4) When the promotion council states its opinion to the Director-General pursuant to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, it must announce the opinion to the public without delay.

(5) When taking measures based on the opinion stated pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (3), the Director-General must notify the promotion council to that effect.

(Secretariat)

Article 22 (1) The headquarters has a secretariat to deal with its affairs.

(2) The secretariat has a Secretary-General and other necessary officials.

(3) The Secretary-General takes control of the affairs of the secretariat under the orders of the Director-General.

(Delegation to Cabinet Order)

Article 23 Beyond what is provided for in this Act, necessary matters concerning the headquarters are prescribed by Cabinet Order.

Supplementary Provisions

(Effective Date)

(1) This Act comes into effect as of the date of promulgation; provided, however, that the provisions of Chapter III come into effect as of a day specified by Cabinet Order within a period not exceeding three months from the date of promulgation.

(Review)

(2) A necessary review of the provisions of this Act and the measures taken under the provisions of Article 5 is to be aimed to be implemented within five years from the enforcement of this Act.