Acknowledgements

This study was conducted by the Kitahara Group, which was commissioned by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia to investigate the status of rehabilitation in Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States, and the possibility of utilising rehabilitation as practiced in Japan in a proposal for elderly care and disability aid in Southeast Asia. We completed this report thanks to the support of many institutions and people.

We received a great deal of cooperation and constructive opinions from Director Tran Binh Giang, Dr. Nguyen Duc Chinh, and Dr. Dang Thi Kim Huong at Viet Duc University Hospital, Viet Nam, on conducting the Viet Nam–Ha Noi rehabilitation workshop, hosting the International Congress for Rehabilitation in Ha Noi, Vietnam, and preparing this report. Director Snong Thongsna at Mittaphab Hospital in Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Director Thongphet Sitthivanh at the Center for Medical Rehabilitation in Lao PDR, and Director Yoshifumi Hayashi at Sunrise Japan Hospital, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, kindly let us collect data and gave other forms of support. I would like to express my gratitude to all of them.

The information for this report was obtained with the cooperation of many parties. Chairman Tran Trong Hai at the Vietnam Rehabilitation Association was generous with his time and support. Mr. Le Thanh Van, head of the Physiotherapy Department at Ho Chi Minh City University of Medicine and Pharmacy, provided much information. Ms. Many San from the Cambodian Physical Therapy Association; Mr. Tran Ngoc Nghi from the Viet Nam Ministry of Health, Agency of Medical Services Administration; and Mr. Singvongxay Bouadeng of the Department of Physical Therapy, University of Health Science, Vientiane, Lao PDR, kindly provided us with the information to investigate the status of rehabilitation in their countries and to collect data. We are grateful for their valuable insights and opinions.

Finally, sincere thanks go to Mr. Koji Fujimoto, deputy head of the Office of Healthcare Policy, Cabinet Secretariat, Japan, for his continued support and valuable suggestions and advice. We truly appreciate the cooperation of all the patients who participated in this study and their family members, and the enormous support from our colleagues working on this project.