For foreign residents, the “Basic Resident Registration Network System” and the “Basic Resident Registration Card” will commence operation.

**From July 8, 2013**

For foreign residents, the “Basic Resident Registration Network System” will commence operation. Furthermore, foreign residents will be eligible to receive a “Basic Resident Registration Card”.

For further information, please inquire at your municipality of residence.
Q1  What is the “Basic Resident Registration Network System”?
A1  The “Basic Resident Registration Network System” is a system that enables nationwide identity verification by putting the Basic Resident Registration on a network in order to increase convenience for residents, etc.

Q2  What is the “Basic Resident Registration Card”?
A2  The “Basic Resident Registration Card” is a highly secure IC card and the “Basic Resident Registration Card with Photo” can be used as an official identification.

Q3  What procedures will become necessary at the commencement of operation of the “Basic Resident Registration Network System”?
A3  It is not necessary for foreign residents to perform any procedures at the commencement of operation of the “Basic Resident Registration Network System”. Please note that in accordance with the commencement of operation of the “Basic Resident Registration Network System”, a Resident Record Code* will be entered in the Resident Record of foreign residents and they will be notified of their Resident Record Code by their municipality of residence from July 8, 2013. Entry of the Resident Record Code may be requested in some administrative procedures, so please keep the Notification of Resident Record Code in a safe and secure location.

*The Resident Record Code is a random 11 digit number that is essential in performing nationwide identity verification through the “Basic Resident Registration Network System”.

Q4  How can I acquire the “Basic Resident Registration Card”?
A4  Please bring the Application for Issuance of the Basic Resident Registration Card, photo (only for those who desire “Basic Resident Registration Card with Photo”), certificate such as residence card, etc. and fee (free in some municipalities) and apply at your municipality of residence.

When the “Basic Resident Registration Network System” commences operation, the following are examples of activities that will become possible.

- Procedures will be simplified. For example, it will be possible to omit submission of a copy of the Resident Record at some administrative organs.
- It will be possible for copies of the Resident Record* to be issued at municipalities other than your municipality of residence.
  * Presentation of the “Basic Resident Registration Card” or residence card, etc. will be required.
- Special provisions for Move in Notification will be applied to those who have been issued the “Basic Resident Registration Card” which will allow them, by making Move out Notification by mail or other method, to appear only one time at the municipality of their new residence to complete the moving procedure.
- Online administrative procedure applications that require an electronic certificate for verification of identification will be possible by storing an electronic certificate on the “Basic Resident Registration Card”.
- It will be possible for those who have been issued the “Basic Resident Registration Card” to receive original services provided by municipalities such as issuance of certificates at convenience stores in some municipalities.

For further information on the “Basic Resident Registration Network System” and the “Basic Resident Registration Card”, please see the following web page.

“Changes to the Basic Resident Registration Law”