## NIPPON LIFE ANNOUNCES INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION BOND ISSUED BY FEDERAL STATE OF NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA

**Tokyo, February 1, 2018** - Nippon Life Insurance Company (President: Yoshinobu Tsutsui, hereinafter "Nippon Life") today announced the completion of the EUR 50 million investment in an Education Bond issued in a private placement format by the German Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia (hereinafter "NRW"). This marks the first time that NRW has issued an Education Bond and that Nippon Life has invested in an Education Bond.

NRW is the largest state of Germany in terms of both its population and the economy. The Ruhr industrial region is located in the southwestern part of the state. NRW has introduced a "Sustainability Strategy" which is designed to implement Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs") on the state level, aiming for integrated environmental, social and economic development.

NRW will use the proceeds from the Education Bond to cover grants made by the State to municipalities and municipal associations earmarked for investments in the school sector, in the area of early childhood education, and in sports facilities. This will help improve "Quality Education" which is one category of SDGs. Nippon Life expects its investment in the Education Bond to contribute to the formation of a sustainable society and to secure long-term stable returns.

In the previous fiscal year, Nippon Life signed the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment. In addition, in line with the new Mid-term Management Plan (Fiscal 2017 –2020), Nippon Life is aiming to make an investment of JPY 1.5 trillion in new and emerging growth fields, and our quantitative target for investing in ESG bonds over the next four years is JPY 200 billion. Investing in the Education Bonds forms a part of Nippon Life's investing in ESG bonds to make a social contribution.

Nippon Life will continue to contribute to the formation of a sustainable society by bolstering ESG investment and financing, after taking into account matters of a social and public nature, together with the investment returns.

< Nippon Life and SDGs-related Business >

In September 2015, at a United Nations summit, the participating countries adopted "Sustainable Development Goals," consisting of 17 goals and 169 targets, in order to realize a sustainable development society. All the United Nations countries will make utmost efforts to accomplish these goals for achieving sustainable development by 2030. The goals relate to poverty and starvation, energy, climate change, and a peaceful society. At the same time, these countries' companies are also expected to play an important role in achieving the SDGs.

Nippon Life has been working on SDGs-related business through its development and provision of products and services, asset management, and other channels. Nippon Life will continue to contribute to resolving various social issues through its business activities, taking into consideration the demands of global society.





< The Goal That Is Related To This Investment >

## **Goal 4. QUALITY EDUCATION**

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

- Equal access for all to quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
- Pay a Special attention to the needs of persons with disabilities and children
- Provide education for sustainable development and improve learning environments

