

## Ajinomoto Co., Inc.

### Notice of Change of Certified Public Accountant

**TOKYO, May 25, 2020** – Ajinomoto Co., Inc. (“Ajinomoto Co.”) announces that its Audit & Supervisory Board, at a meeting held on May 21, 2020, resolved to change Ajinomoto Co.’s certified public accountant, and that at an extraordinary meeting of its Board of Directors held today, it was resolved to place a proposal to appoint an accounting auditor on the agenda at the 142nd Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders scheduled to be held on June 24, 2020. Accordingly, Ajinomoto Co. gives notice as follows regarding a change in its certified public accountant or auditing firm that performs audit certifications pursuant to Article 193-2, Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act.

#### 1. Scheduled date of change

June 24, 2020 (Scheduled date of the 142nd Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders)

#### 2. Overview of incoming and outgoing certified public accountants

##### (1) Overview of incoming certified public accountant

(1) Name	KPMG AZSA LLC
(2) Address	AZSA Center Building, 1-2, Tsukudocho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo
(3) Designated engagement partners	Takuji Kanai Hiroataka Tanaka Hiroto Kawase
(4) Status under the Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants’ registration system for listed company audit firms	Registered

##### (2) Overview of outgoing certified public accountant

(1) Name	Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC
(2) Address	Hibiya Mitsui Tower, Tokyo Midtown Hibiya, 1-2, Yurakucho 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
(3) Designated engagement partners	Kiyonobu Takeuchi Takashi Sadatome Shinya Maekawa

#### 3. Reasons for selecting the firm in 2 (1) above as candidate certified public accountant

In addition to being able to expect auditing from a new viewpoint with the appointment of KPMG AZSA LLC in consideration of the consecutive years of service of the current accounting auditor, the Audit & Supervisory Board determined the suitability of KPMG AZSA LLC by conducting an examination of its expertise, independence, quality control system and global auditing structure based on standards for appointment and reappointment of accounting auditors established by the Audit & Supervisory Board.

#### 4. Date of appointment of outgoing certified public accountant

1951

**5. Opinions on audit reports and other documents prepared by the outgoing certified public accountant over the past three years**

Not applicable.

**6. Reasons and circumstances leading to change or decision to change**

The term of office of Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC as accounting auditor of Ajinomoto Co. will expire upon the conclusion of the 142nd Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders scheduled to be held on June 24, 2020. In light of the consecutive years of service of the current accounting auditor, the Audit & Supervisory Board received and examined proposals from multiple audit firms, including the current accounting auditor. As a result, for the reasons given in 3 above, KPMG AZSA LLC was selected as candidate for accounting auditor of Ajinomoto Co.

**7. Opinions on reasons and circumstances in 6 above**

(1) Opinion of outgoing certified public accountant

Ajinomoto Co. has received a response that it has no particular opinion on the matter.

(2) Opinion of the Audit & Supervisory Board

Details are in accordance with the circumstances and result of the examination by the Audit & Supervisory Board and are judged to be appropriate.

The Ajinomoto Group, using the power of amino acids, aims to provide food and health-related solutions that improve dietary habits and support aging populations, and create greater wellness for people all around the world.

Based on the corporate message "Eat Well, Live Well.," we have been scientifically pursuing the possibilities of amino acids to aim for future growth by creating new value through sustainable and innovative solutions for communities and society.

The Ajinomoto Group has offices in 35 countries and regions, and sells products in more than 130 countries and regions. In fiscal 2019, sales were 1.1000 trillion yen (10.1 billion U.S. dollars). To learn more, visit [www.ajinomoto.com](http://www.ajinomoto.com).

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