# Japan's Economy and Monetary Policy

### Speech at a Meeting with Local Leaders in Okayama

## June 1, 2022

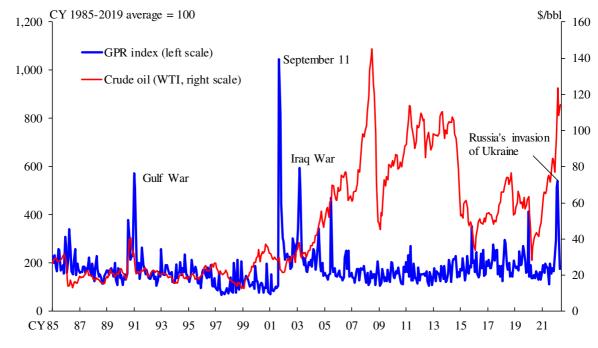
### WAKATABE Masazumi

Deputy Governor of the Bank of Japan

Chart 1 I. Current Situation and Outlook for Economic Activity Developments in the Global Economy (IMF's April 2022 WEO) Major Economies' Growth Rates Global Growth Rate y/y % chg. y/y % chg., % points 7 CY 2022 CY 2023 CY 2020 CY 2021 [Forecast] [Forecast] CY 2022: 6 CY 2021: --3. 6. 3.6 3. +6.1% +3.6% World 5 -0.8 -0.2 (0.) -4.5 5.2 3.3 2.4 4 Advanced economies (0.2)(-0.6)(-0.2)3 5.7 3.7 2.3 -3.4 United States CY 2023: (0.1) (-0.3) (-0.3) 2 CY 1990-2019 5.3 2.8 2.3 -6.4 +3.6% Euro area average: +3.6% 1 (0.1 (-1.1) (-0.2) -9.4 7.4 3.7 1.2 0 United Kingdom (0.2) (-1.0) (-1.1) -4.5 1.6 2.4 2.3 -1 Japan (0.0)(-0.9)(0.5)-2 CY 2020: -2.0 4.4 Emerging market and 6.8 3.8 developing economies (0.3) -3.1% (-1.0)(-0.3 -3 2.3 8.1 4.4 5.1 China -4 (0.0) (-0.4) (-0.1) IMF forecasts -7 3 69 89 82 -5 India (-0.1 (-0.8) (-0.2) -6 -3.4 3.4 5.3 5.9 ASEAN-5 CY00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 (0.3) (-0.3) (-0.1)

Note: In the table, figures in brackets are the differences from the forecasts in the January 2022 World Economic Outlook (WEO). ASEAN-5 consists of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. Source: IMF.

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Notes: 1. Figures are the highest values of each month

 The GPR index, which was developed by Federal Reserve economists, is constructed by calculating the share of articles on geopolitical risks in 10 leading English-language newspapers.
 Sources: Caldara, D. and Iacoviello, M., "Measuring Geopolitical Risk," *American Economic Review*, vol. 112, no. 4 (April 2022): pp. 1194-1225; Bloomberg.

Chart 3 I. Current Situation and Outlook for Economic Activity Impact of a Rise in Commodity Prices Decomposition of Changes in Trade Balance in Energy Resources **Commodity Prices** q/q % chg. s.a., ratio to nominal GDP, % 30 2 United States Surplus 1 Euro area 20 Japan 0 10 -1 0 -2 -10 -3 Demand factors -20 -4 ⊐Supply factors -30 -5 Z Constant Deficit -40 Real commodity prices -6 -7 -50

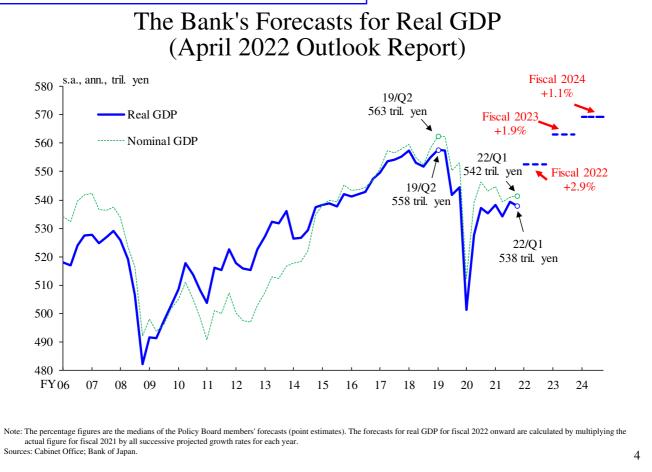
CY 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 CY19 20 21 22 Notes: 1. In the left-hand chart, figures show the trade balance in mineral fuels. The latest figures are for 2022/Q1. The figure for 2022/Q1 for the euro area is calculated using its nominal GDP for 2021/Q4.

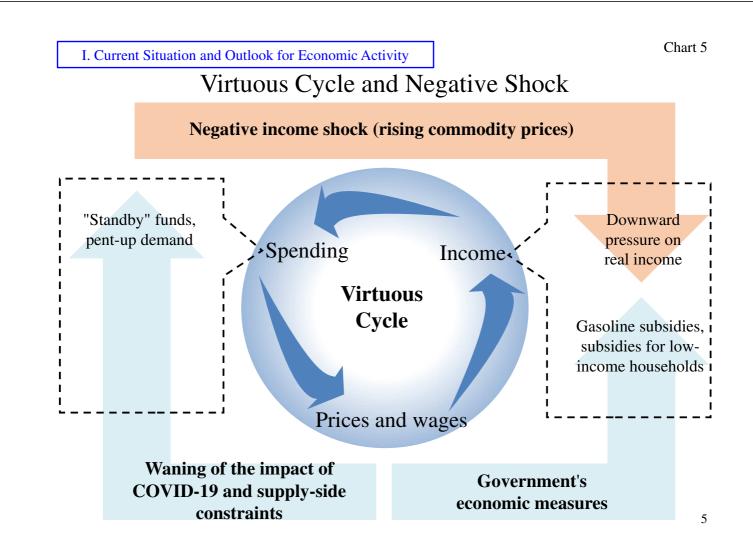
2. In the right-hand chart, a two-period lag VAR model using the following two variables is estimated: the OECD's Composite Leading Indicator (CLI, OECD total) and real commodity prices (the CRB Index deflated by the U.S. CPI). Demand and supply shocks are identified by imposing the following sign restrictions on the impulse response function of each variable. Demand increase shocks: the responses of the CLI and real commodity prices are both restricted to be positive. Supply increase shocks: the response of the CLI is restricted to be positive, while that of real commodity prices is restricted to be negative. The estimation period is 1994/Q4-2021/Q1.
Sources: Haver; OECD; Bloomberg; BLS.

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Chart 4

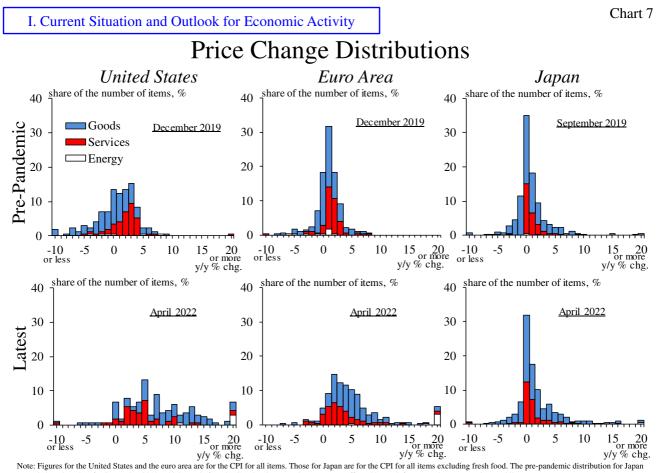




#### The Bank's Forecasts for the CPI (April 2022 Outlook Report) y/y % chg. 3.0 FY 2022 +1.9% FY 2024 +1.5% FY 2023 April: +2.1%2.0 April: +0.8% 1.0 FY 2024 F 2023 +1.1% +1.1% 0.0 2022 +0.9% -1.0 CPI (less fresh food) -2.0 CPI (less fresh food and energy) -3.0 FY 06 08 09 13 07 10 11 12 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

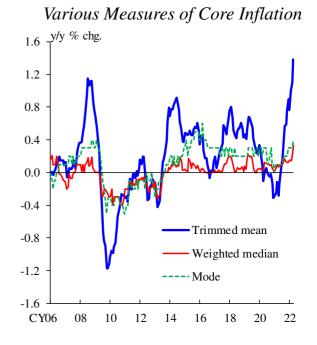
Note: Figures exclude the direct effects of the consumption tax hike in April 2014. The forecasts show the medians of the Policy Board members' forecasts (point estimates). Sources: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; Bank of Japan.

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Note: Figures for the United States and the euro area are for the CPI for all items. Those for Japan are for the CPI for all items excluding fresh food. The pre-pandemic distribution for Japan is based on data for September 2019, which was before the CPI developments in Japan were affected by such factors as the consumption tax hike. Sources: BLS; Eurostat; Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.





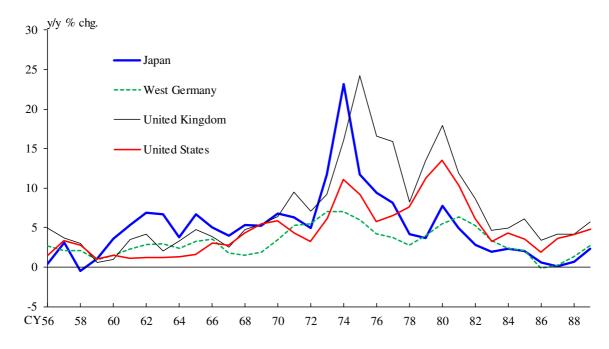
Notes: 1. In the left-hand chart, figures for Japan and the United States are 10-year break-even inflation rates. Those for the euro area are 10-year inflation swap rates. Figures for Japan from June 2008 through October 2013 are calculated using yield data for the inflation-indexed Japanese government bonds with the longest maturity for the respective periods.
 In the right-hand chart, figures are based on staff calculations using the CPI excluding the effects of the consumption tax hikes, policies concerning the provision of free education, and the "Go To Travel" campaign, which covers a portion of domestic travel expenses.
 Sources: Bloomberg; Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; Bank of Japan.

Inflation Expectations

II. Will the Era of Inflation Return?

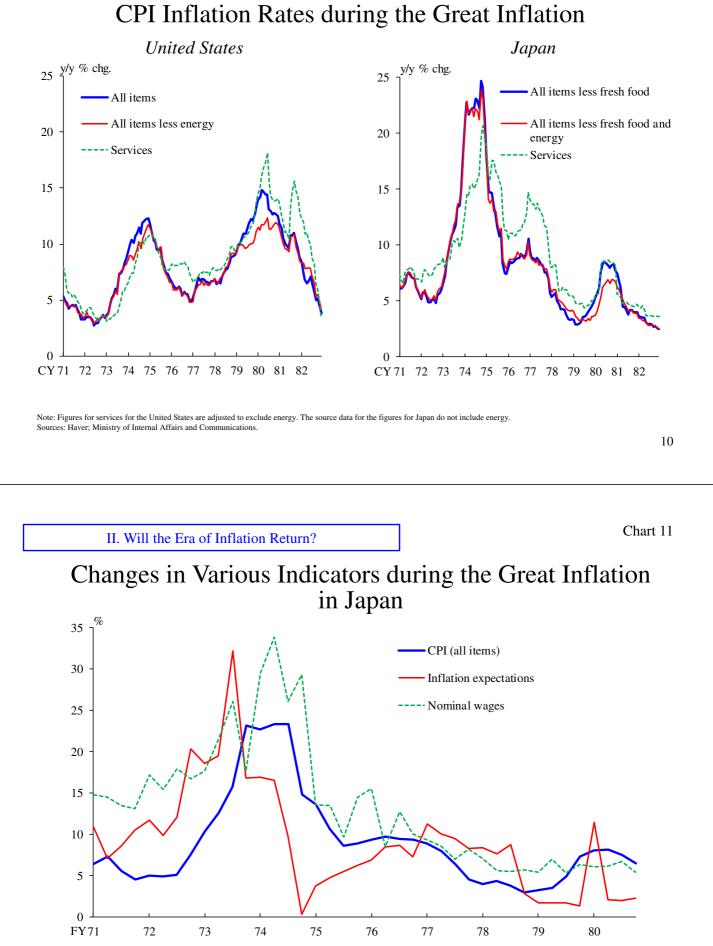
Chart 9

### Price Developments in Selected Economies from the Mid-1950s through the 1980s



Note: Figures are the CPI for all items. Source: OECD.

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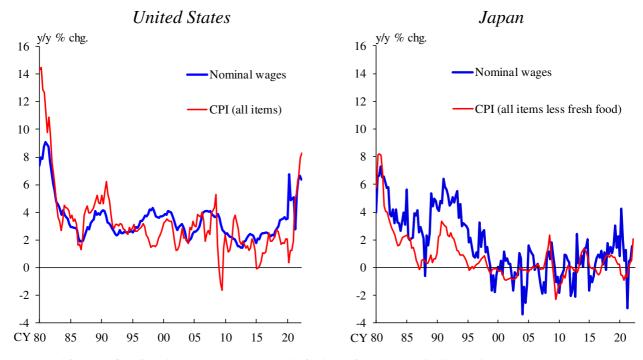


Notes: 1. Figures for inflation expectations are based on the Consumer Confidence Survey (all households), estimated using the Carlson-Parkin method. The figures are from the following paper: Shimada, H., Hosokawa, T., and Seike, A., "Chingin oyobi koyō chōsei katei no bunseki" [Analysis of the Wage and Employment Adjustment Process] in Keizai bunseki [Economic Analysis], ed. Economic Research Institute, Economic Planning Agency, no. 84, March 1982.

2. Figures for nominal wages show total cash earnings, including those for part-time employees, and are for establishments with at least 30 employees

Sources: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; Cabinet Office.

## Historical Trends in Wages and Prices



Notes: 1. In the left-hand chart, figures for nominal wages show average hourly earnings for private nonfarm employees, published by the BLS. 2. In the right-hand chart, figures for nominal wages are based on the *Monthly Labour Survey* published by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and calculated as follows:

2. In the right-hand chart, figures for nominal wages are based on the Monthly Labour Survey published by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and calculated as follows: Nominal wages = (Scheduled cash earnings + Non-scheduled cash earnings) / Total hours worked. The figures include nominal wages for part-time employees and are for establishments with at least 30 employees.

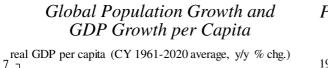
establishments with at least 30 employees. Sources: Haver; Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

III. Recent and Future Economic Activity in Okayama Prefecture

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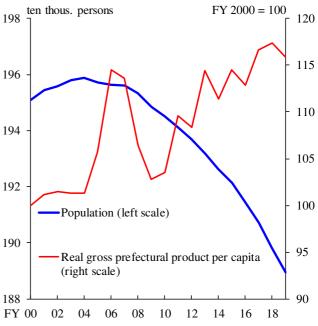
Chart 13

### Population Growth Rate and GDP



#### 6 196 5 194 4 3 192 2 190 1 (right scale) 0 188 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5

Population and Gross Prefectural Product per Capita in Okayama Prefecture



Note: In the left-hand chart, figures are those for 23 OECD member countries for which data from 1961 onward are available. Sources: World Bank; Cabinet Office; Okayama Prefecture.

population (CY 1961-2020 average, y/y % chg.)

### Conclusion

# Outline of the Outlook Report (April 2022)

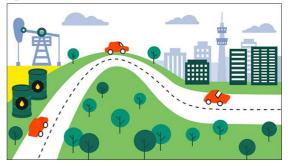
(1) Japan's economy is likely to recover.



(3) COVID-19, the situation surrounding Ukraine, and market developments warrant attention.



(2) The rate of increase in the CPI is expected to accelerate and then decelerate.



(4) The Bank will continue with aggressive monetary easing.

