

**Acquisition of Shares in BMG Japan Inc. by Sony Music Entertainment Japan Inc.**

**Sony Music Entertainment Japan Inc. (“SMEJ”) today announced that it has agreed to acquire outstanding shares in BMG Japan Inc. (“BMGJ”) These shares were previously held by the Sony BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT group (“SONY BMG”) which has become a wholly owned subsidiary of Sony Corporation (“Sony”) following Sony’s purchase of Bertelsmann AG’s stake in SONY BMG.**

**BMGJ has contractual relationships with many major Japanese and international artists, including Kazumasa Oda, Shikao Suga, SEAMO, MISIA, Takako Matsu, The Cromagnons and sukimaswitch, and Avril Lavigne, Britney Spears, Backstreet Boys, Leona Lewis and Usher, and also possesses an outstanding staff of entertainment industry specialists. SMEJ has a well-established infrastructure and wide-ranging resources that support its entertainment business operations.**

**Going forward, SMEJ will align and optimize SMEJ and BMGJ’s operations to enhance efficiency and establish a structure that maximizes both companies’ wide array of music assets with the aim of remaining competitive in the market and contributing to further Japanese music industry growth.**