

Daiwa's View

Details of economic package coming into view

It appears to still be somewhat less than Y34tn; and short period of measures is also a focus of attention FICC Research Dept.

Senior Fiscal Policy and Credit Analyst **Kouji Hamada** (81) 3 5555-8791 kouji.hamada@daiwa.co.jp



Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd.

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Details of economic package coming into view

From the end of last week through to this morning, a series of news reports have appeared about an economic package. At the moment, the total of the FY20 third extra budget and the FY21 initial budget appears to be slightly above Y25tn, but it has not reached Y34tn. However, as we do not think that this is the entire amount, we await additional news reports and the announcement of the package. Meanwhile, the period of the measures is shorter than expected. Therefore, we get the impression that (1) a large amount of budget will not be allocated for the initial FY21 FILP and (2) a first supplementary budget could be compiled during an ordinary Diet session until June if the COVID-19 pandemic is prolonged or becomes more serious.

According to news reports thus far, pandemic response measures include provision of coronavirus vaccinations free of charge to all residents in Japan, a Y1.5tn increase in temporary local revitalization grants, which can be used to pay for compensation for cooperation in situations such as when local governments request restaurants to shorten their operating hours, and an extension of special measures for the employment adjustment subsidy as well as the period for the Go To Travel and Go To Eat campaigns, all of which are in line with our expectations. The package also includes an extension of the effectively interest-free/uncollateralized loan program and an increase in the emergency comprehensive support grants to medical providers that are allocated to prefectures. On the other hand, news articles have not touched on an increase in the subsidy program for business continuation, for which Y5.2tn was secured via the FY20 first and second extra budgets and the transfer from contingency reserves. This should continue to garner attention.

The budgets for disaster restoration and measures for infrastructure reconstruction total Y15th during FY21-25. Today, the *Nikkan Kensetsu Kogyo Shinbun* reported that the aggregate amount of public work would be around Y2.5tn. This is also in line with our expectations. Regarding economic measures, it is reported that Y4.5tn and Y1tn will be allocated to a fund to support decarbonization and a project to promote digitalization, respectively. However, this alone is not sufficient, neither in terms of scale nor content. The scale of the currently reported economic package appears to still be somewhat less than the Y34tn that was requested by the Liberal Democratic Party on an aggregated basis. We look forward to hearing further news about this.

One concern is that the period for the additional measures is not very long. The government has decided to extend the special measures for the employment adjustment subsidy to February 2021. Reportedly, it would extend the effectively interest-free/uncollateralized loan program to March 2021 and the Go To Travel and Go to Eat campaigns to June, meaning that the period expires by June, soon after the FY21 starts in April. If it remains difficult to see when the pandemic will be brought under control, an option for response measures in FY21 will be (1) to allocate a large amount of money in the initial budget with the understanding that the entire budget may not be used, or (2) to secure a minimal budget, and make additions, if needed. In our 24 November report, we assumed the former option would be chosen, but news reports seem to indicate that the latter option is being chosen. If so, the FY21 FILIP is unlikely to be that big. If it is judged that contingency reserves in the general account and the FILP's elastic clause alone are not enough due to prolongation/deterioration of the pandemic situation, there may be talk of a first supplementary budget during an ordinary Diet session until June. We await additional news and the announcement of the economic package.



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■ Credit Rating Agencies

[Standard & Poor's]

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[Fitch]

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1) As of 26 April 2016, Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd., its parent company Daiwa Securities Group Inc., GMO Financial Holdings, Inc., and its subsidiary GMO CLICK Securities, Inc. concluded a basic agreement for the establishment of a business alliance between the four companies.

As of end-December 2017, Daiwa Securities Group Inc. owned shares in GMO Financial Holdings, Inc. equivalent to approximately 9.3% of the latter's outstanding shares. Given future developments in and benefits from the prospective business alliance, Daiwa Securities Group Inc. could boost its stake in GMO Financial Holdings, Inc. to up to 20% of outstanding shares.

- 2) Daiwa Real Estate Asset Management is a subsidiary of Daiwa Securities Group Inc. and serves as the asset management company for the following J-REITS: Daiwa Office Investment Corporation (8976), Daiwa Securities Living Investment Corporation (8986).
- 3) Samty Residential Investment became a consolidated subsidiary of Daiwa Securities Group Inc. effective 10 September 2019.
- 4) On 30 May 2019, Daiwa Securities Group Inc. formalized an equity/business alliance with Samty, and as of 14 June 2019 it owned 16.95% of shares outstanding in Samty along with convertible bonds with a par value of Y10bn. Conversion of all of said convertible bonds into common shares would bring the stake of Daiwa Securities Group Inc. in Samty to 27.28%.
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Corporate Name: Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd.

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