

December 17, 2020

## **Kirin Holdings' new mid-term GHG reduction target was approved by the Science Based Targets initiative based on 1.5°C criteria**

**- The first Japanese food company to upgrade from the "2°C target" to the "1.5°C target" -**

**TOKYO, Thursday December 17, 2020** - Kirin Holdings Company, Limited (Kirin Holdings) is pleased to announce that the Kirin Group's medium-term GHG<sup>\*1</sup> reduction target was approved by the SBT<sup>\*2</sup> initiative (SBTi)<sup>\*3</sup>. SBTs are scientifically-based goals to limit the average global air temperature. Prior to this, the Kirin Group was the first Japanese food company to obtain approval for the previous 2°C target in 2017. Kirin Holdings is pleased to announce that it has now become the first Japanese food company to upgrade from the 2°C target to the 1.5°C target which covers greenhouse gas emissions from the Kirin Group's operations (scopes 1 and 2) are consistent with reductions required to keep warming to 1.5°C, the most ambitious goal of the Paris Agreement.

\*1: Greenhouse gas.

\*2: Greenhouse gas emission reduction targets set by companies for five to 15 years in the future, consistent with the levels required by the Paris Agreement (which aims to limit the global temperature increase to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to limit it to 1.5 degrees Celsius).

\*3: An initiative established in 2015 by the CDP, the United Nations Global Compact, the World Resources Institute and WWF.

After Kirin Holdings first received approval from SBTi in 2017, new scientific findings on climate change were shown in the IPCC's<sup>\*4</sup> [1.5°C special report](#) in 2018. Based on those findings, international discussions, such as at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit and COP25, have shown that the goal of limiting the Earth's temperature increase due to global warming to 1.5°C is being widely accepted.

In the [Kirin Group Environmental Vision 2050](#) formulated in February of this year, Kirin Holdings set net zero GHG emissions from its entire value chain by 2050 as one of its climate change-related targets. The new target was also certified based on SBT 1.5°C criteria with an ambitious goal of reducing Scope 1+2<sup>\*5</sup> emissions by 50% and Scope 3<sup>\*5</sup> emissions by 30% by 2030 compared to 2019, an upward revision from the previous 2°C target level.

\*4: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. <https://www.ipcc.ch>

\*5: Scope defined by the GHG Protocol, an international standard for calculating and reporting GHG emissions. GHG emissions emitted; Scope 3, GHG emissions by others related to a company's business activities.

### **● New Target (now certified as a "1.5°C Target")**

By 2030, reduce the total of Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions by 50% and Scope 3 by 30% across the Kirin Group compared to 2019.

### **● Original Goals (established in 2017)**

By 2030, reduce the sum of Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions of the entire Kirin Group by 30% and Scope 3 by 30% compared to 2015

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## ● Kirin's Several Steps on the Path Toward Zero Carbon

Kirin Holdings has several initiatives being implemented. These include, but are not limited to:

- “fuel switching”
- installing heat pump systems
- utilizing renewable energy such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power
- utilizing biogas from wastewater treatment plants to generate electricity
- GHG reduction initiatives in the value chain, including container weight reduction and co-delivery

## ● International Certification and Recognition

The SBTi is one of many international initiatives whom Kirin Holdings participates. In 2018, Kirin Holdings became the first Japanese food company to endorse the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD<sup>\*6</sup>) recommendations, and now it actively promotes information disclosure such as TCFD-related scenario analysis.

<sup>\*6</sup>: Or “Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures” <https://www.fsb-tcfd.org>

Most recently, in November of this year, Kirin Holdings joined the [RE100 Initiative](#) and committed to 100% renewable energy use by 2040.

All of these initiatives are aligned with the [Kirin Group Environmental Vision 2050](#), working to lead the way toward the creation of a decarbonized society.

<Reference>

- Kirin Group Environmental Vision 2050  
<https://www.kirin.co.jp/csv/eco/mission/> (Japanese)
- Kirin Group joined RE100 Renewable Electricity Initiative  
[https://www.kirinholdings.co.jp/english/news/2020/1118\\_02.pdf](https://www.kirinholdings.co.jp/english/news/2020/1118_02.pdf)

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