

## SONY Passes a Resolution for the Purchase of Treasury Shares – Outlook Remains Positive

The following is Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR)'s opinion on SONY CORPORATION (security code: 6758) regarding the purchase of treasury shares.

- (1) SONY CORPORATION (the "Company") has passed a resolution of the purchase of treasury shares at the Board of Directors meeting today. The total amount of treasury shares to be purchased is at a maximum of 100 billion yen, and this acquisition is scheduled to be completed by March 22, 2019. However, the Company also implied that some or all of the acquisition may not take place depending on the market activities and other factors. This is the first time for the Company to undertake such acquisition for the purpose of providing returns to its shareholders.
- (2) Recently, the Company's capacity to generate cash flow is increasing. Its cumulative operating cash flow and free cash flow excluding the Financial Services segment stood at 605 billion yen and 175.6 billion yen, respectively, in the first nine months of the fiscal year ending March 2019 (FY2018), with a net cash position of 444.9 billion yen as of the end of the first nine months of FY2018. Furthermore, the Company continues to accumulate shareholders' equity, which showed sufficient amount of 2,903.9 billion yen as of the end of the first nine months of FY2018. Taking these factors into account, impact by this acquisition should be limited, and JCR concluded that it is not necessary to change its Positive Outlook.

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### <Reference>

Issuer: SONY CORPORATION

Long-term Issuer Rating: A      Outlook: Positive

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