

March 30, 2004

To whom it may concern

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**Asahi Glass Announces Government Approval for
Return of Substitute Portion of Employees' Pension Program**

Asahi Glass Co., Ltd. (hereafter "the Company") announces that the Asahi Glass employee pension fund obtained a waiver of the obligation to pay benefits in the future from the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare on March 26, 2004, in association with the return to the government of the assets/accounts that the fund has been managing on behalf of the government based on the Defined Benefit Corporate Pension Law.

With the return of the aforementioned assets of public pension programs, the Company intends to apply paragraph 47-2 of "Practical guidelines for accounting of retirement benefits (interim report)" (accounting committee report No. 13 of the Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants).

As a result, the Company is expected to post an extraordinary profit and a decline in retirement pay obligations for fiscal 2004. The decrease in retirement pay obligations is also predicted to reduce operating expenses in and after fiscal 2004. The Company will announce the details of these amounts once it finishes the necessary calculations.