

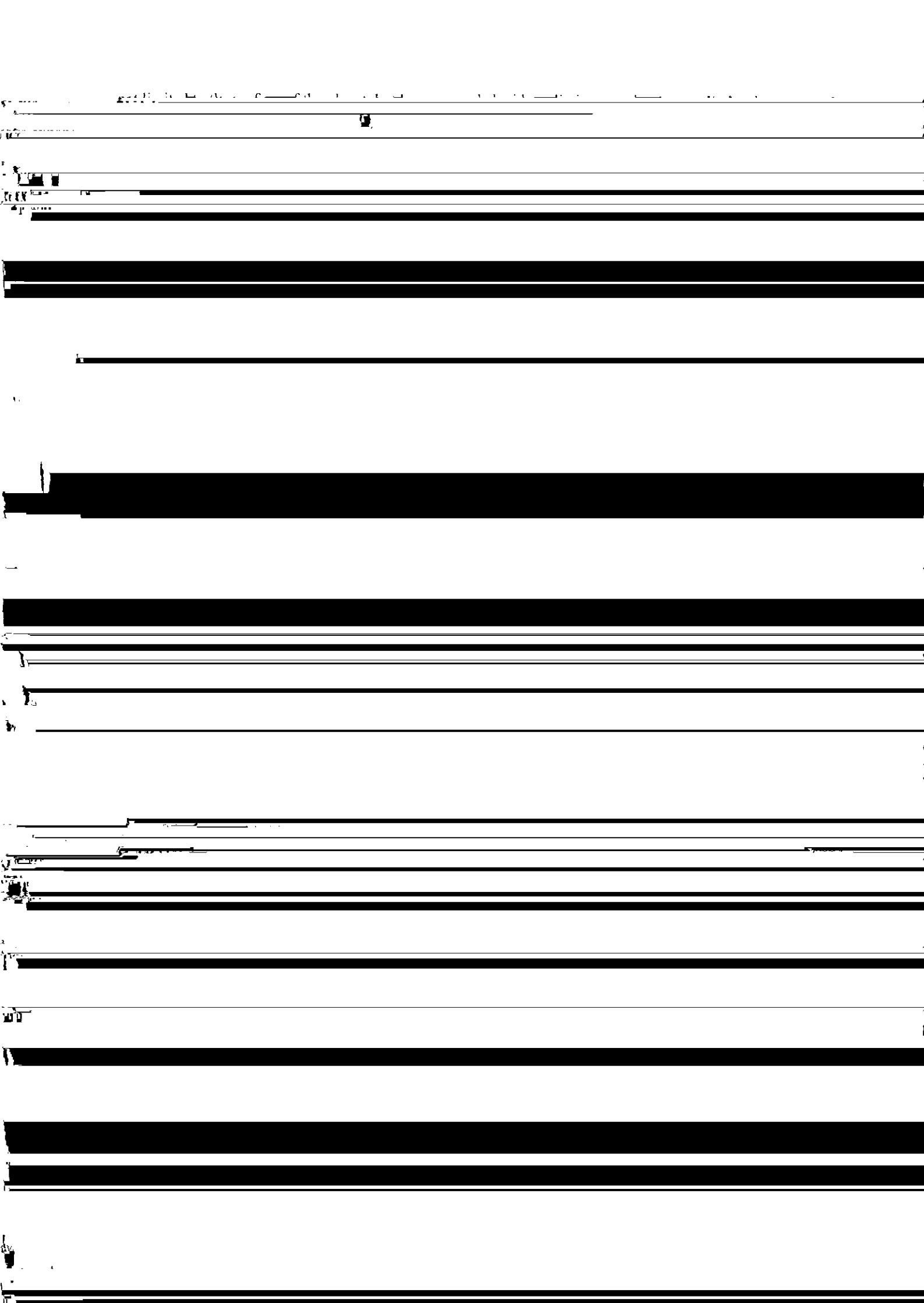
FOREWORD

Shigeru Motoyama
Adviser



Today, half a century after the end of the Second World War, Japan is in midst of difficult polit-

ical and economic changes. As realistic problems, we must decide how we are to deal with the vague anxieties that many feel about an aging society, which will become a fact in the near future, and with changes for the worse in the global environment, given the prolonged economic recession and polit-



Steel, as a steel maker, is not simply to increase its revenues, but to become a pioneer in technical development by making full use of its technology with respect to original steel materials as a producer of steel, its technology in the area of construction materials, and its superb research facilities for research and development, and using steel materials not only in steel structures, but also in the construction business through mutual linkage with its many group companies.

The Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995 pointed up the fact that man must give full consideration scientifically and technically to his response to nature. In this natural disaster, the superiority of

required in dealing with these points.

Construction investment in Japan already exceeds ¥90 trillion a year. This technical develop-