Japanese Initiatives

• JPL 29(1) limits patents to “industrially applicable” inventions
• JPL 32 prohibits patenting of inventions “liable to contravene public order, morality, or public health”
• JPO Examination Guidelines (January 2001):
  – To be patentable, an invention must use either hardware or a “law of nature”
  – Firm enforcement of “inventive step” requirement