

### 1 Measures for the Aging Society in FY 2014

The main measures in FY 2014 are as follows.

#### (1) Employment and Pension

##### ○ Support and promotion of re-employment of the elderly

In order to improve the transition back into work for the elderly, by using the work mobility support subsidy that was greatly expanded in the supplementary budget of 2013, we will support measures for operators who have entrusted private job placement agencies with the re-employment of the elderly forced to retire and for operators who accept the elderly into training (including OJT), and will aim to further advance work mobility, including supporting skill development.

##### ○ Development and popularization of remote work using information communications

Based upon the Declaration to be the World's Most Advanced IT Nation, agreed upon by the Cabinet in June 2013, we believe that telework will contribute to the remote work style of the elderly and as such associated ministries and agencies will cooperate and promote the arrangement of an environment conducive to its popularization and expansion as well as promoting knowledge of its popularization.

##### ○ Establishment of a sustainable and stable public pension system

As for the ratio of the basic pension borne by the government in 2014 and beyond, thanks to increased consumption tax and tax revenue, a ratio of one-half will be made permanent. In addition, based upon the Act to Revise Part of the Act to Revise Part of National Pension (Act No. 99, 2012), from the viewpoint of aiming to improve pension fiscal policy and equality among generations, we are proceeding with the dissolution of the special case level, reducing the special case level by

one percent in April 2014.

##### ○ Establishment of a pension system neutral to working styles and life course choices

Along with tackling the smooth enforcement of matters such as the exemption of social insurance premiums during maternity leave according to the four pension laws, we will also handle the necessary preparations and information-sharing ahead of the smooth enforcement of social insurance being expanded to short-time workers beginning in 2016.

#### (2) Health, Nursing Care and Medical Care

##### ○ Promotion of nursing care prevention

Beginning in 2014, in order to promote communities in which the elderly can freely and easily participate in their daily lives and have their activities be enhanced through bonds with other locals, we will provide technical assistance to cities, towns and villages cooperating with prefectures. We will establish a system for the sharing of nursing and medical care information (transparency) so that we may easily and objectively grasp the characteristics, challenges, initiatives, etc. for the nation, prefectures, cities, towns and villages, and daily living sphere.

##### ○ Medical care system for the elderly

Based upon the Act for Social Security System Reform Program, we will discuss the total comprehensive fee levy for the late-elderly subsidy and aim to submit a bill to the Diet in 2015. In addition, based on the situation of medical insurance system reform implementation, we will discuss the reevaluation, as necessary, of medical care systems for the elderly. As for patients from 70 to 74 years who pay a provisional 10%, the ratio will be gradually elevated to statutory 20% beginning in April 2014 for those newly

reaching 70 years old; those who have already reached 70 years old by the end of March of the same year, the special measure (10%) will continue until they become 75 years old. At that time, the limit on the patient's burden for high-cost medical care will be kept as is, including for low-income individuals.

○ **Integrated and sustainable provision of home medical and long-term care in the community**

We will support projects enhancing home medical and long-term care services executed by prefectures and municipalities, and will also support cooperation between home medical care and long-term care professions by letting municipalities collaborate with district doctors' associations, etc.

○ **Promotion of livelihood support through mutual help in regional communities**

In recent years, not only in depopulated areas but also in urban areas, the number of consumers, and the elderly in particular, who feel inconvenience and hardship in purchasing foods and eating and drinking has increased, and the phenomenon has become a social food access problem. Therefore, we will support the undertaking of methods to improve the food access environment in regions through planning and discussion meetings established and operated by concerned people in the areas cooperating with their cities, towns, and villages.

(3) **Social Participation and Learning**

○ **Social participation and creating life purpose for the elderly**

By using the Regional Headquarters for School Support that supports educational activities and the extra classrooms available after school and on weekends to jointly and comprehensively promote the "children's after-school classroom" that provides learning, experience, and exchange, the "support for education at home" that provides learning opportunities for education at home, and the further improvement of Saturday educational

environments, we are able to support child-rearing environments in all regions with the help of participation from all types of local residents, including the elderly.

○ **Promotion of consumer education initiatives**

The "issues to be addressed" set forth in the Basic Policy on Promotion of Consumer Education (approved by the Cabinet in June 2013) have been discussed by three subcommittees formed under the Consumer Education Promotion Council (the Consumer Citizenship Development Subcommittee, the Information Utilization Enhancement Subcommittee and the Regional Collaboration Promotion Subcommittee), and will sort out the results of the discussions in February 2015, further promoting consumer education initiatives.

(4) **Life Environment**

○ **Promotion of disaster prevention measures**

Under the current Fire Services Act and its regulations, fire alerts are generally made by sound, and the introduction and prevalence of other alert systems are lagging behind. For this reason, we will discuss the installation of and maintenance standards for light-based alarm systems based upon the results of a related 2013 investigation, in order to facilitate the smooth implementation of such systems that will accurately transmit fire alerts to the elderly and disabled.

(5) **Vitalization of Market Response to the Aging Society and the Promotion of Investigation and Research**

○ **Strengthening of medical care, nursing care and health-related industries**

To create an industry conducive to increased healthy life expectancy and to provide prevention and health maintenance services uncovered by public insurance with cooperation between medical institutions and the private sector, we will promote the foundation-building and commercialization of primary issues such as arrangement of business environment

(removal of “gray zone,” etc.), promotion of corporate investment in health, and quality evaluation of health-related goods and services.

○ **Promotion of innovation in medical fields**

In order to strengthen the international competitive power of Japanese bio-pharmaceuticals, we will implement the development of platform technologies for world-first next-generation bio-pharmaceuticals such as intracellular pharmaceutical creation techniques by merging our country's strengths including chemical biology and calculation science.

○ **Investigation and research concerning health promotion and diseases particular to the elderly**

Using robot technology, regenerative medicine, IT etc., we will develop and implement highly internationally competitive and innovative medical equipment and systems, such as minimally invasive medical devices as well as early-diagnostic equipment to discover diseases early. We will also promote the development and implementation of medical equipment responsive to on-site challenges, with the help of medical-engineering cooperation between small- and medium-sized manufacturers and medical institutions, arranging medical-engineering support functions and building a cooperative system of supporting organizations.

**(6) Foundation-building by all generations in response to the Super-Aging Society**

○ **Promotion of irregular employment measures**

In order to stabilize employment and improve treatment of irregular employment workers, we will promote overall measures to support the grading-up of company careers, such as conversion to regular employment, human resources cultivation, and improved employee treatment.

In addition, in response to the Japan Revitalization Strategy decided by the Cabinet in June 2013, in order to popularize and promote model cases of the “diversified regular workers” focusing on job duties, we will collect and disseminate successful cases. We will also put together the Points to Remember Regarding Employment Management, which will prescribe the statement of working conditions, among other matters, at the advisory council for spreading and expanding the “diversified regular workers” as early as possible in FY 2014.