

### Section 1 Fundamental Framework of Measures for the Ageing Society

- The basic framework of national measures for the ageing society is based on the Basic Act on Measures for the Ageing Society (Act No. 129 of 1995).
  - The Prime Minister is the chairperson of Ageing Society Policy Council and all Cabinet Ministers are appointed as members of the council. They draft the fundamental principles of measures for the ageing society, make necessary adjustments to the relationships between related administrative agencies in implementing measures for the ageing society, discuss important issues on measures for the ageing society, and promote implementation of those measures.
  - The government is required to formulate an outline of measures for the ageing society based on the Basic Act on Measures for the Ageing Society. It serves as a mid- and long-term basic yet comprehensive guideline to government measures against the ageing society.
  - As many different fields are going through changes with the ageing population, review of the Guideline of Measures for Ageing Society was decided in the Ageing Society Policy Council. Ideas for the Guideline of Measures for Ageing Society were developed within the government based on documents including reports on the “Committee on the fundamental methods to carry out measures for the ageing society” and the 4th version of the Guideline of Measures for Ageing Society was adopted by the Cabinet on February 16, 2018.
  - Having “construction of the society put up in Article 2 of the Basic Act on Measures for the Ageing Society” as the basic philosophy, we will promote measures for the ageing society based on the following three basic principles.
    - Review standardization by age and aim at creating Age-free society in which people of all ages can make use of their motivation and abilities depending on their hope..
    - Develop a community life base and consolidate a local community where people can imagine their elderly life at any life stage..
    - Aim for new measures on ageing society by using the innovation of technological achievements
- i Towards the realization of Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens
- The government constructed a career enhancement system in an effort to reduce the wage gap between long-term care providers and workers in other industries in order to eliminate long-term career leave based on “The Japan’s Plan for the Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens.” As a result, the monthly pay gap was improved by approximately 10,000 yen (the same improvement was made for welfare workers for the handicapped). With respect to the progress in the road map of “The Japan’s Plan for the Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens,” the government held a follow-up meeting on it to contribute to the continuous survey and the examination of the review of measures.
- To realize the work style reform
 

The work style reform is ranked as the greatest challenge for realizing the Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens specified in “The Japan’s Plan for the Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens.” “The Action Plan for the Realization of Work Style Reform” was put into shape in the 10th meeting of the Council for the Realization of Work Style Reform held on March 28, 2017. The action plan for the Realization of Work Style Reform sets out various reformation measures such as “Improvement in the Working Conditions of Non-regular Workers Such as by Providing Equal pay for Equal Work” and “Improvement in Long Working Hours Including Introduction of a Regulatory Limit on Overtime Work” to change the fundamentals of Japan’s corporate culture, lifestyles of Japanese people and Japan’s way of thinking

in regard to work.

After much discussion held by the Labour Policy Council, bills on the comprehensive promotion of reforms to rectify long working hours and to provide equal pay for equal work were submitted to the 2018 regular National Diet in an effort to enable all people of Japan to choose their own work style depending on their personal intention, skills and situations.

- Council for Designing 100-year Life Society  
In order to create a society in the age of 100-year life, where people of all generations, both young and old, can play an active role, continue working on their roles to live a fulfilling life and live with peace of mind, it is necessary to provide high-quality education and a place for acquiring useful skills seamlessly with the help of stable financial resources throughout the people's lives. Moreover, it is also required to drastically convert Japan's social security system into "Social Security that accommodates the needs of all generations" to provide peace of mind to every member of society regardless of age. The key is the "human resources development revolution," namely the investment in human resources. The government has been working on the realization of Dynamic Engagement of

All Citizens and the reform of work styles and making active efforts toward "human resource investment" to create a society where everybody can live a fulfilled life. The human resources development revolution with an eye toward the 100-year life society is the foundation for creating a society with Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens; it cannot be achieved without the human resources development revolution. The Minister for Human Resources Development Revolution was newly appointed on August 3, 2017 in the reorganization of the Cabinet. In September of the year, "Council for Designing 100-year Life Society" was held as a new council to examine the grand design of policies for establishing a socioeconomic system for the coming 100-year life society and an intermediate report was submitted in December.

In order to combat the barrier of the declining birthrate and ageing population by bringing human resources development revolution and productivity development together, the government worked out the "New Economic Policy Package" based on the discussions held at the council (decided by the Cabinet on December 8, 2017).

## Section 2 Implementation Status of Measures in each Field

### Principal Initiatives

#### 1 Employment and Income

##### i Organization of an environment where people can choose from a variety of work styles

For the activities of the Silver Human Resources Center, an organization which comprehensively provides older people who have retired but are looking for a temporary/short-term or simple job with employment opportunities as well as social participation opportunities, the government provided support for the expansion of employment opportunities and the increase in the number of members. The government particularly focused on the skilled senior utilization/active generation employment support project which supports activities for securing employment opportunities in some fields including the childcare support field, in order to encourage employment of senior citizens who are still physically active. The government also endeavored to provide various employment opportunities and secure a steering committee so that members of each Silver Human Resources Center can work in local areas with peace of mind. Examples include the launch of the local employment opportunity creation/expansion project to provide new employment opportunities which would lead to solution of employment issues of local companies through cooperation between the Silver Human Resources Center and local public bodies/related organizations including economic organizations. Simultaneously, to meet the diversifying needs of older people, deregulation of working hours of work styles of temporary job and on-the-spot hiring became possible from 2016 onward only when there is a designation of industry/job types and areas by Prefectural governor. Working hours were deregulated in a total of 134 areas by 2017.

##### i Development/popularization of remote work style through utilization of information and communication technology

Based on a notion that telework will greatly support senior workers' remote work style, related ministries and agencies are working together to develop the environment for further dissemination of telework, and awareness-raising of dissemination, etc.

Accordingly, the government continued working

on the popularization of high-quality telework under reasonable working conditions, namely by constructing a teleworking model which enables flexible work styles such as balance between work and childcare /long-term care.

Furthermore, related ministries, agencies and organizations have been cooperating with each other in a national telework project from 2017 onward, naming July 24, the scheduled date of the opening ceremony of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics as the "telework day." Approximately 950 organizations including companies of various fields and local governments, total of 63 thousand people teleworked on this day.

##### i Support entrepreneurship of the elderly

The government supported senior entrepreneurs in starting a new business through the financing system (support fund for female, young and senior entrepreneurs) of Japan Finance Corporation (Micro Business and Individual Unit/Small and Medium Enterprise Unit) with an advantageous interest rate for older people.

Moreover, in an endeavor to create employment opportunities for people of middle or advanced age, the government decided to partially subsidize the expenses for creating employment that are required when people of middle or advanced age are going to start a new business (the so-called foundation of a start-up company), and deregulated limitations regarding the age of prospective workers which are part of the conditions of subsidization.

With respect to the financing system (regional revitalization/employment promotion fund) provided by Japan Finance Corporation (Micro Business and Individual Unit/Small and Medium Enterprise Unit), the government continued with the deregulation of conditions of the employment creation result required to take advantage of the financing system ("creation of employment for minimum of 2 people" was deregulated to "creation of employment for minimum of 1 person") for business operators who employ older people (people aged 60 and over), in order to promote organization of an age-free working environment.

##### i Construction of the public pension system that that everyone can rely on

Based on the situation that nearly 70% of the older

people want to work beyond the age of 65, we will not only make well known actively the system to raising pensionable age later than 65 years old, but will also examine enhancement of the system to be more flexible and easier of the usage for pensioner, including making it selectable of the start of receiving of the pension at or after the age of 70 years old.

Regarding the communication of the raising pensionable age to the pensioners, the Japan Pension Service devised improvement of the announcement method by adding the description and inserting explanatory drawings on the item in (1) the brochures enclosed when sending a pension invoice in advance to the pensioners, and (2) the brochures enclosed when sending postcards to eligible old-age welfare pension beneficiaries of special payment at the age of 65.

Also, from the viewpoint of preparing a pleasant working environment for workers, and also from the viewpoint of increasing the security of pensions, etc. for short-hour workers, based on the “Act to Partially Amend National Pension Act, etc. for Strengthening the Sustainability of the Public Pension System” (Act No. 114 of 2016, hereinafter referred to as the “Pension Reform Act”), in addition to enforcing the expanded application of the employee insurance covering short-hour workers working in large companies since October, 2018, and from April 2017, short-hour workers working in small and medium-sized enterprises, etc. were able to apply employee insurance on a corporate basis based on labor-management agreement. We also promoted the dissemination and publication by distributing leaflets to all applicable business sites and holding explanatory meetings for applicable business owners.

#### **j Develop an environment for promotion of asset formation**

By promoting the dissemination of workers' asset formation saving system, etc., promotion of planned property formation by self-help efforts of workers prepared for elderly age was implemented. Regarding the defined contribution pension plan, we continued to disseminate and expand iDeCo (individual-type defined contribution pension plan) whose enrollment scope expanded from January, 2017, and to promote dissemination and expansion for diffusion and amplification, and also after reviewing the annual unit of contribution regulation, we made flexible contribution possible since January, 2018. Regarding the retirement payment system, measures were implemented to promote the dissemination of the Smaller Enterprise Retirement Allowance Mutual Aid System to support the

introduction of retirement payment system for small and medium enterprises.

In addition, in order to encourage building-up of assets in a planned manner of the people, we established the Dollar-Cost Averaging NISA (Tax exemption according to the tax-free accumulation investment contracts) in order to promote the establishment of long-term, funded and diversified investment from a small amount.

The system started in January, 2018, but in order to promote the dissemination of the system, we strive to communicate the system through public relations activities, etc. and based on the existence of workers who have not been able to enroll in the asset accumulation through investment for reasons such as lack of opportunity, etc. we started the “Workplace Dollar-Cost Averaging NISA” which is an effort to promote the use of the Dollar-Cost Averaging NISA by utilizing the workplace so that they can obtain the opportunity to start the Dollar-Cost Averaging NISA at a familiar place.

## **2 Health and Welfare**

### **j Sustainably operate the Long-Term care insurance system**

As long as the long-term care insurance system has become established and the use of services has greatly increased, long-term care expenses are rapidly increasing.

In order to deepen and promote the community-based integrated care system securing inclusive medical care, long-term care, prevention and living support services enabling older people to continue living in the area where they are accustomed to be based on the situation of such long-term care insurance system, the “Act to partially amend the Long-Term Care Insurance Act to Strengthen the Community-based Integrated Care System” (Act No. 52 of 2017, hereinafter referred to as the “Act to Strengthen the Community-based Integrated Care System”), was established in June, 2017.

Specifically, we incorporated (1) institutionalization of mechanisms in which all municipalities demonstrate insurer functions and work towards independence support and prevention of severity, (2) support by prefectural government on municipal initiatives to promote cooperation between medical care and long-term care, and in addition, (3) promotion of municipal initiatives toward the realization of community inclusive society, and (4) securing of sustainability of Long-Term Care insurance system, etc.

#### **j Secure the necessary Long-Term Care services**

In order to realize a system (community-based integrated care system) whereby local residents can receive long-term care services in a continuous and integrated manner as much as possible in the community in which they have lived, the government will promote the enhancement of community-based services, such as the “Periodically Visiting and On-demand Visiting Long-Term Care” in which visiting long-term care and visiting nursing are closely related, and Combined Multiple Service (Multifunctional Long-Term Care in a Small Group Home & Home-Visit Nursing), the development of housing for older people such as housing for older people with services, and the support for adequately running long-term care services for residents in specified facilities (paid long-term care home).

In addition, as a method of realizing the community-based integrated care system that simultaneously enhances support for older people individuals who live in the community and develops a social infrastructure that supports them, we are promoting “Community Care Conference” to local governments throughout the country to promote popularization and establishment.

Additionally, in order to secure long-term care personnel, by utilizing Integrated Securing Funds for Regional Medical and Long-term Care, in addition to supporting the efforts of all the prefectures towards promoting entry, improving working environment and improving quality, work on promoting new entrants and recalling career takers who left their jobs, through long-term care worker scholarship fund lending business and reemployment reserve lending business is in process, as well as initiatives such as introducing entry training for middle-aged and older people who volunteer and implementing workplace experiences. In addition, labor conditions equivalent to an average of 10,000 yen per month for each person providing long-term care was implemented through the expansion of the additional improvement of labor conditions for persons providing long-term care in the temporary revision of long-term care fees in FY 2017. For loan projects such as long-term care welfare scholarship funds, we increased the amount of loan resources etc. in the supplementary budget for FY 2017.

#### **j Sustainably operate of medical care system for older people**

In May 2015, the Act to revise part of the National Health Insurance Act (Act No. 31 of 2015) to promote a sustainable medical insurance system was established, from the viewpoint of strengthening support among employee insurers on the basis of late-stage older people by employee insurers and to distribute the burdens according to their capability. The total remuneration was raised to half in fiscal year 2015, two-thirds in 2016, and from 2017, it was decided to carry out a complete remuneration.

#### **j Promote measures to support older people with dementia**

In order to realize a society in which the mind of people with dementia is respected and they can live as much as possible on their own in a good environment of their own community where they have lived long, in January 2015, the “Comprehensive Strategy - To Realize Age and Dementia-Friendly Community (New Orange Plan)” (hereinafter referred to as “Comprehensive Strategy”) was formulated.

The Comprehensive Strategy is to comprehensively promote dementia measures along the seven items, targeting the period until 2015 when the so called baby boomer generation becomes 75 years of old, specifically, (1) Raising awareness and promoting understanding of dementia, (2) Providing health care and long-term care services in a timely manner as the stages of dementia progress, (3) Strengthening the measures for early onset dementia, (4) Supporting those looking after people with dementia, (5) Creating age and dementia-friendly community, (6) Promoting research and development and disseminating the results of prevention, diagnosis, cure, rehabilitation model, and care model for dementia and (7) Promoting the standpoint of persons with dementia and their families.

In the Comprehensive Strategy, specific numerical targets for each aiming the end of FY 2017 as the immediate target have been established, and the progress of measures up to now had been generally smooth, a relevant ministries liaison meeting concerning the making of community friendly to older people with dementia was held in July, 2017, where the said numerical targets were updated to the targets until the end of FY 2020, and revisions including enrichment of the target contents to carry-out the measures effectively.

#### **j The way of medical care at the end of life**

From FY 2017, we have held the “Study Meeting on the Diffusion and Enlightenment of Medical Care at the End of Life” and while conducting awareness surveys for citizens and medical welfare workers and compiling the report on the way of providing information and disseminating awareness to citizens the information provision and the way of disseminate information to citizens, we have revised the “Guidelines Concerning the Decision Process of Medical care and Long-Term Cares at the End of Life,” from the viewpoints of the importance of discussing in this matter widely in the society and the usage of the ideas in the home medical care and long-term care.

### **3 Learning and Social Participation**

#### **j Provision of re-learning opportunities for working members of society at higher education institutions**

In order to respond to the growing need for lifelong learning, universities further promoted acceptance of working members through introduction of flexible form of study, by conducting such as admissions for working members, establishment of night graduate school, day and night open lectures system, non-degree student system as well as certification system for extension programs.

In addition, encouraged universities, etc. to make the results of academic research and education open directly to society, and to offer the advanced learning opportunities such as implementation of non-degree student system and open lecture programs.

The Open University of Japan has provided opportunities for university education to citizens widely, by effectively using the familiar media such as television, radio broadcasting and the Internet.

#### **j Promote the understanding of social security**

While promoting a wide range of financial education by holding symposiums on the theme of stable asset formation, we have created investment teaching materials with an emphasis on utilization in the workplace in order to promote investment education in collaboration with the introduction of the Workplace Dollar-Cost Averaging NISA.

Contents related to enhancement and stabilization of the social security in an ageing society with declining birthrate and long-term care were stated in the subjects of Social Studies and Technology / Home Economics of the National Curriculum Standard for Lower Secondary Schools revised in March 2017, and in the subjects of Civics and Home Economics of the National Curriculum Standard for Senior High Schools revised in March 2018.

Furthermore, in order to cultivate the ability of young people to understand the ageing society, we are striving on the creation of an environment where social security education can be correctly taught at educational sites, such as training for the members of faculty staffs.

With regard to the Social Security and Tax Number System, which is the basis of a more fair and equitable social security system, as of the start of full-scale operation of information linkage from November, 2017, in the case of 853 business processing including Long-term care insurance and procedures related to welfare for the older people, conventionally necessary documentations such as copies of resident cards and taxation certificates that were supposed to be required become unnecessary. Regarding the working situation of such Social Security and Tax Number System, we have cooperated with municipalities or others to communicate and publicize to the people.

#### **j Improve ICT literacy**

From November, 2017, at the “Board for Making the Future of the IoT New Era” in the Information and Communications Council, they started studying concrete measures to promote the participation of senior citizens in the society utilizing ICT towards the era, where it is “natural” to use IoT and AI in the daily life.

#### **j Promote consumer education efforts according to the life stage**

Consumer education, which is carried out to support independence of consumers, must be systematically performed according to each stage from early childhood to elderly age, and must be conducted giving consideration to the characteristics of the consumers, including age, disability or any other.

In order to promote such consumer education comprehensively and integrally, the “Act on Promotion of Consumer Education” (Act No. 61 of 2012) came into effect in December, 2012.

Based on this law, the Consumer Education Promotion Council had been established in the Consumer Affairs Agency, and since July, 2015, at the 2nd stage Consumer Education Promotion Council, they started reviewing on the issues to address the changes in the theme and sorted out arguments on them (mainly, (1) Fulfilling measures of consumer education in schools, (2) Fulfilling measures of consumer education for young people (environment improvement in accordance with lowering of the age of adulthood), and (3) Promoting understanding of the importance of participation in the formation of consumer civil society), aiming to review the “Basic Policy on Promotion of Consumer Education” (decided by the

Cabinet in June, 2013, hereinafter referred to as “Basic Policy” in this section,) and summarized the results to publish in June, 2017.

In the third stage of the Consumer Education Promotion Council, which was launched in August in the same year, discussions were also made on the review of the above-said basic policy, and a cabinet decision was made on the change in March, 2018.

In the basic policy after change, the necessity of systematic consumer education according to the life stage and the direction of measures for realizing it are posted.

#### **i Social participation and creating life purpose for the older people**

Based on the Social Education Act revised in March, 2017, we have promoted the “Community Cooperation Activities for Learning and Education” nationwide to support the growth of children who will lead the future and create communities, through the participation of a wide range of local residents including the older people, companies and organizations with School – Community partnerships, in such as fostering community, human resources, learning of hometown, learning and experience activities in after school time, etc.

Furthermore, as securing leaders is pointed out as an important issue in constructing a place for students to practice ICT education after school, etc., in the “Program to Promote Youth Programming Education” project, we verified the skills necessary for the older people participates as leaders under the cooperation of compulsory retiree consist of teachers and engineers.

In addition, the Ministry implemented the “Project to Promote Activities to Allow the Older People to Find Reasons for Living” which is designed to allow older people to conduct activities related to reasons for living and health while gaining a certain income through paid volunteer activities, and to simultaneously promote activities which serve as a basis for the prevention of long-term care or as life support services, so that older people after retirement can spend a lively life with a role in communities.

### **4 Living Environment**

#### **i Stably secure a housing for older people**

For promotion of the supply of “house for older people with service” created in the enforcement of the “Act Partially Amending Act on Securement of Stable Supply of Elderly Persons' Housing” (October, 2011) (Act No. 32 of 2011), we provided assistance for maintenance cost, special measures for taxation, and support by loans of Japan Housing Finance Agency.

Furthermore, in order to respond to an increase in the people such as aged households who require housing support, we established new housing safety net policy in FY 2017 that contains registration systems for rental housing that is intended for the promotion of smooth move-in for persons requiring housing support, as well as provided support for home renovation and reduction of residents' burden holds with this policy.

Japan Housing Finance Agency is implementing loans applying the special repayment system for older people for barrier-free repair work to be conducted by the older himself/herself.

Also, for houses that are excellent in barrier-free performance and the like, interest rate cuts are being implemented for Flat 35S, which utilizes the framework of securitization support business.

Additionally, by utilizing the housing loan insurance system, promotion of reverse mortgages applicable to funds for construction, purchase, and improvement of houses provided by private financial institutions is supported.

#### **i Promotion of measures based on the “Universal Design 2020 Action Plan” aimed at realizing cohesive society**

In order to implement measures to promote universal design and barrier-free transport for the realization of a symbiotic society, with the opportunity of the Tokyo Olympics and the Paralympics in 2020 and to leave it as a legacy after the event, at the “Universal Design 2020 related ministries etc. liaison meeting” chaired by the Tokyo Olympic Games and Tokyo Paralympic Games Competition Minister in February 2017, the “Universal Design 2020 Action Plan” was decided and the schemes for each measure aiming a cohesive society based on this action plan has started.

In addition, based on this action plan, the “Act on Promotion of Smooth Transportation, etc. of Elderly Persons, Disabled Persons, etc.” (Act No. 91 of 2006, hereinafter referred to as the “Barrier-free Act”) and the results of the study about related measures, the Cabinet decided a bill to revise the above mentioned Barrier-free Act and submitted it to the 196th Diet. The contents of the bill includes: to promote integrated efforts of infrastructure-based and non-infrastructure-based measures by public transportation business operators, to reinforce the efforts in regions towards barrier-free town planning, to expand the scope of application of Barrier-free Act and to promotion of the provision of barrier-free information for the users , etc.

#### **i Comprehensively promote town development and community development in**

### **consideration of all generations**

From the viewpoint of regional revitalization, we promote efforts of “communities for lifelong activities” aiming for developing communities where middle-aged and older people move in the rural and town areas at their wish to live a healthy and active life while interacting with local residents of different generations and can receive necessary healthcare and Long-term care services.

As of October, 2017, 245 local governments showed intention to struggle with the “communities for lifelong activities,” and 79 organizations had been already promoting efforts.

In FY 2017, the relevant cabinet ministries cooperatively expanded the number of the target organizations of the “support team for formation of communities for lifelong activities” that supports the efforts of local governments from 7 organizations to 16 organizations, and executed review and advised to solve the problems that have emerged in the process of efforts.

Furthermore, they tried to disseminate case examples and know-how that serve as a reference for the “communities for lifelong activities” by utilizing the ‘Manual towards the realization of the “communities for lifelong activities concept,” being compiled in FY 2016 and any others.

In addition, the formation of “communities for lifelong activities” has been proceeding which is distinctive in various places, by such as the accreditation of the regional revitalization plan of “communities for lifelong activities” related to special measures based on the Local Revitalization Act has cumulatively totaled to 17 municipalities, 17 plans, and the determination of the subsidy to be granted regarding the efforts in the field of “communities for lifelong activities” has cumulatively totaled in 96 categories, 120 projects.

### **j Secure traffic safety**

Regarding countermeasures to prevent accidents caused by elderly drivers, a conference of relevant ministers was held on November 15, 2016, following the repeated traffic accidents in 2016 resulting in fatality caused by elderly drivers. In response to this, in November 2016, the government established a “working team for the prevention of traffic accidents caused by elderly drivers,” composed of Director-Generals of the related ministries and agencies under the Traffic Policy Headquarters. (Head: Minister of State for Special Mission) The working team, with the common understanding that the ministries responsible for individual measures take initiative in exploring solutions and taking measures immediately, completed an overall report so far on June 30, 2017. In July, the Traffic Policy

Headquarters thus decided to promote urgently and strongly the reported policies. The government will continue promoting the policies and considering additional measures.

### **j Protect from human rights violations**

Based on the “Act on the Prevention of Elder Abuse, Support for Caregivers of Elderly Persons and Other Related Matters” (Act No. 124 of 2005), necessary surveys and other activities were repeatedly conducted in FY 2016, regarding abuse by care workers with long-term care facilities, etc. and abuse by carers, necessary surveys and other activities were repeatedly conducted in FY 2016, in order to grasp the actual situation and correspondence situation of abuse in each prefecture and municipality, we provided necessary assistance to promote early response to elder abuse, by such as prompt collaboration with related organizations to check the safety of the older people and to conduct abuse prevention and protection, if there is a report or notification concerning elder abuse in municipalities or else.

In addition, the continue trainings for the staff of “community general support center,” installed in each cities, towns and villages, were conducted so that it is possible to perform the elderly advocacy and the consultation works at the comprehensive consultation service smoothly, including grasp the actual conditions and response to the abuse of the older people in need of assistance.

In the Legal Affairs Bureau and District Legal Affairs Bureau, etc., in addition to responding to consultations on human rights issues of older people, in the event of recognizing a case suspected of human rights violation that makes the older people a victim, abuse, etc. in homes and elderly facilities, etc., conduct investigation as a case of violation of human rights, and based on the results, take appropriate measures according to the case, and are striving to relieve the damage and disseminate the thought of respect for human rights. In FY 2017 also, we have reinforced the consultation system by continuously establishing special consultation centers so that residents and their family members can continuously consult with social welfare institutions such as elderly facilities without hesitation, in addition by setting-up of a “Human rights of the older people and people with disabilities” strengthening week nationwide when the reception hours for telephone consultation were extended and opened on holidays.

### **j Protection from malicious trade**

“Act to partially amend the Act on Specified Commercial Transactions” (Act No. 60 of 2016) which includes new measures to prevent the older



people from being damaged, such as a business prohibition order against executives, etc. in corporations that are ordered to stop their businesses, and the rights to cancel to excess amount sales through telemarketing sales was enforced in December, 2017.

Taking into consideration damage cases where consumers, such as older people with lowered cognitive ability, are unfairly made to buy a highly excessive amount of products by businesses including stores, the “Act for Partial Revision of the Consumer Contract Act” (Act No. 61 of 2016) which was enforced on June 3, 2017, newly established the provision to approve the right of cancellation to contract with such excessive contents. The Consumer Affairs Agency disseminated the new provision with leaflets titled “Do you know about the Consumer Contract Act - Regulations that constitute special provisions of the Civil Code and Commercial Code?”

From the viewpoint of preventing occurrence and expansion of such damage cases and recovery of damage, utilization of The Consumer Organization Litigation System is important, as a system was introduced to allow the Specified Qualified Consumer Organization to pursue lawsuits related to claims for damages, etc. on behalf of consumers according to the “Act on Special Measures Concerning Civil Court Proceedings for the Collective Redress for Property Damage Incurred by Consumers” (Act No. 96 of 2013), which came into force in October, 2016, a measure was inserted that National Consumer Affairs Center of Japan, an Incorporated Administrative Agency, can set collateral for the provisional seizure on behalf of the Specified Qualified Consumer Organization to ensure that the organization effectively recovers damage in the “Act to Partially Amend National Consumer Affairs Center of Japan, etc.” (Act No. 43 of 2017) that came into force in October, 2017.

#### **j Promote disaster prevention measures**

In order to ensure the smooth and prompt evacuation of older people and persons requiring consideration in the event of a disaster, according to the “Issues and Measures to be taken based on the Typhoon No. 10 Disaster in 2016 (Report),” related administrative organizations and groups jointly created the “Case Studies on the Creation of Plans Concerning the Evacuation in the Facility for Persons Requiring Consideration” in August 2017 and developed the knowledge nationwide. With the partial amendment to the “Flood Control Act” (Act No. 193 of 1949) and the “Act on Sediment Disaster Countermeasures for Sediment Disaster Prone” (Act No. 57 of 2000, hereinafter referred to as “Sediment Disasters Prevention Act”), it was

obliged to prepare evacuation securing plan and to implement training based on the plan for the owner or administrator of the facilities that are located within the anticipated inundation area or within the sediment disaster alert area and the name and address of the facilities were stipulated in the municipal emergency preparedness plan, and are utilized by the people including elderly who require assistance for evacuation.

In line with the enforcement of the above-said amendment of those acts, we have prepared guidelines for “Preparing Evacuation Securing Plans for the Facilities Affected by Flood and Sediment-related Disasters that are Utilized by the People Who Require Assistance for Evacuation” and the “Manuals for Evacuation Plan Inspection,” and in addition, in August of the same year, we have amended the “Sediment Disaster Prevention Measures Basic Guidelines” to support the drawing-up of the evacuation securing plans and the implementation of training based on the plan at the facilities utilized by the people who require assistance for evacuation.

#### **j Promote the adult guardianship system**

Regarding the property management and contracts of older people with dementia, attempts to encourage the adult guardianship system that supports them are also being made. The adult guardianship system is an important means to support those who have problems with management of property or daily life etc. due to dementia, mental retardation and other mental disabilities, and in order to comprehensively and systematically promote measures to promote its use, the Act on the Promotion of Utilization of the Adult Guardianship System (Act No. 29 of 2016) was established in April, 2016, and based on this Act and the discussion at the “the Commission on Promotion of the Adult Guardianship System,” the Cabinet decided on the “Basic Plan for Promotion of the Adult Guardianship System” in March, 2017. The basic plan has policy objectives with the viewpoints of improvement of systems and operations that allow users to realize the benefits, creation of regional collaboration networks for advocacy of rights, prevention of fraud and establishing harmony with easy access. Also, as a measure based on the Act on the Promotion of the Use of Adult Guardianship System, draft of a proposed the “Establishment of related laws to improve the appropriateness of measures related to restrictions on rights such as adult ward” was decided by the Cabinet in March, 2018 and submitted to the Diet for taking appropriate measures such as restrictions on disqualification clauses and other rights restrictions relating to adult wards, etc., so that the human rights of adult wards and person under

curatorship (hereinafter referred to as “adult wards and others”) are respected and not to be unjustly discriminated because of being adult wards, etc.

## **5 Research Development and Contribution to the World**

### **i Utilize advanced technology and revitalize the market for older people**

In order to promote the creation of “Healthy Life Expectancy Extension Industry” such as preventive / health management services outside public insurance, we examined from both supply and demand sides and are promoting initiatives.

Specifically, we have examined the supports on the supply side, including promotion of activities of regional version next-generation health-care council, promotion of utilization of public-private funds, and elimination of gray zone, as well as on the demand side, such as promotion of health management by corporate / health insurance association, etc., and have performed each measure. In addition to these efforts towards the establishment of a health-oriented nation, in order to resolve the problems related to health and living environment, such as dementia, weakness (frailty) and others, we have been working on utilization and implementation of state-of-the-art science and technology aiming to realize Society 5.0 proposed in the “5th Science and Technology Basic Plan” (decided by the Cabinet on January 22, 2016).

We have researched and developed ITS (Intelligent Transport Systems) and implemented the related services, including Driving Safety Support Systems (DSSS), Traffic Signal Prediction Systems (TSPS) and ETC2.0, which are intended to provide safe and comfortable mobility for drivers, especially the older people, to draw drivers’ attention with information of surrounding traffic conditions and signal lights by utilizing the cutting-edge information and communication technologies so that they can drive with peace of mind.

Regarding the autonomous driving, a technology that is highly expected to solve various issues such as the elderly-involving accidents and mobility assistance, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism has established “Autonomous Driving Strategy Headquarters” within the ministry to start examination of development and promotion of this technology intended to reduce the elderly-involving accidents and implementation of pilot program and full-fledged service of autonomous driving services in mountainous areas using Michi-no-ekis as a hub.

In order to realize “unmanned autonomous driving transport service for the elderly,” we conducted research, development and experiments in various

regions, and examined the direction of institutional development including review of necessary related laws and regulations.

Furthermore, with regard to nursing care robots, in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for the older people through support for independence and reduce the burden on care providers, we have promoted development in consideration of the needs of those who provide care on site, and have expanded the field that focuses on development and other supports in October, 2017.

### **i Spread Japan's knowledge to the international community**

At the “Promotion Council on the Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative” chaired by the Director-General of the Office of Healthcare Policy in the Cabinet Secretariat and composed of appropriate Director-Generals of relevant ministries and agencies, in order to promote exchange of human resources in the medical and long-term care fields under the Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative, it was determined to build a private certification system for Japanese language schools both in Japan and overseas, and to establish a system for examining standards required for new Japanese language tests focusing on the measurement of communication ability at long-term care sites for technical intern trainees for the occupation of care worker.

On December 6, 2017, the “International Pharmaceutical Partnership Promotion Council” was established under the Headquarters for Healthcare Policy. It aimed to facilitate the promotion of pharmaceutical products in emerging countries together with relevant ministries and agencies. They started consideration on cooperation system of industry, government and academia to promote concrete businesses and specific initial efforts, etc.

In addition, we held the 2nd “Private-Sector Consortium of Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative” (established on February 9, 2017), which is the platform for cooperation between the public and private sectors to promote the Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative, on March 7, 2018. They exchanged opinions on organizing Japanese-style long-term care worth introducing into Asia (organizing case examples, etc.).

Further, on such occasions of international arena as G7, TICAD, the General Assembly of the United Nations, etc., we have actively advocated universal health coverage (UHC), which ensures, all people have access to basic health services without having any financial hardship throughout their lives. Basic health services mentioned in UHC include all services such as maternal and child health,

infectious disease control, community comprehensive care and long-term care for the older people. So far, we have been trying to share experiences and knowledge on measures for ageing in Japan through support for ageing measures improvement of social security systems, dispatch of experts, and training, etc.

## **6 Promote Success of All Generations**

### **i Promote Success of All Generations**

In order to halt the trend of the declining birthrate and the ageing population, toward the realization of dynamic engagement of all citizens that everyone, including female and male, older people, young people, those who have experienced failure once, even those with disabilities and intractable diseases, can play active in society, we have promoted efforts based on “The Japan’s Plan for Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens” (decided by the Cabinet on June 2, 2016), at home, at work, in the community, and everywhere.

In particular, regarding the work style, we have

promoted “The Action Plan for the Realization of Work Style Reform” (decided by the Council for the Realization of Work Style Reform on March 28, 2017) to enable each person to choose a diverse and flexible work style according to their objective, ability and circumstances.

In addition, the “New Economic Policy Package” was adopted (decided by the Cabinet on December 8, 2017) in order to create a society where people of all ages, from children to older people, have opportunities and all people can continue activity vigorously, and a society in which people can live without anxiety, in the 100-year life era. Moreover an interim report was formulated by the “Council for Designing 100-year Life Society” in December 2017. Furthermore, Japan has promoted measures based on the “Outline of Measures to Cope with Society with Declining Birthrate” (decided by the Cabinet on March 20, 2015) and the “Fourth Basic Plan for Gender Equality” (decided by the Cabinet on December 25, 2015).