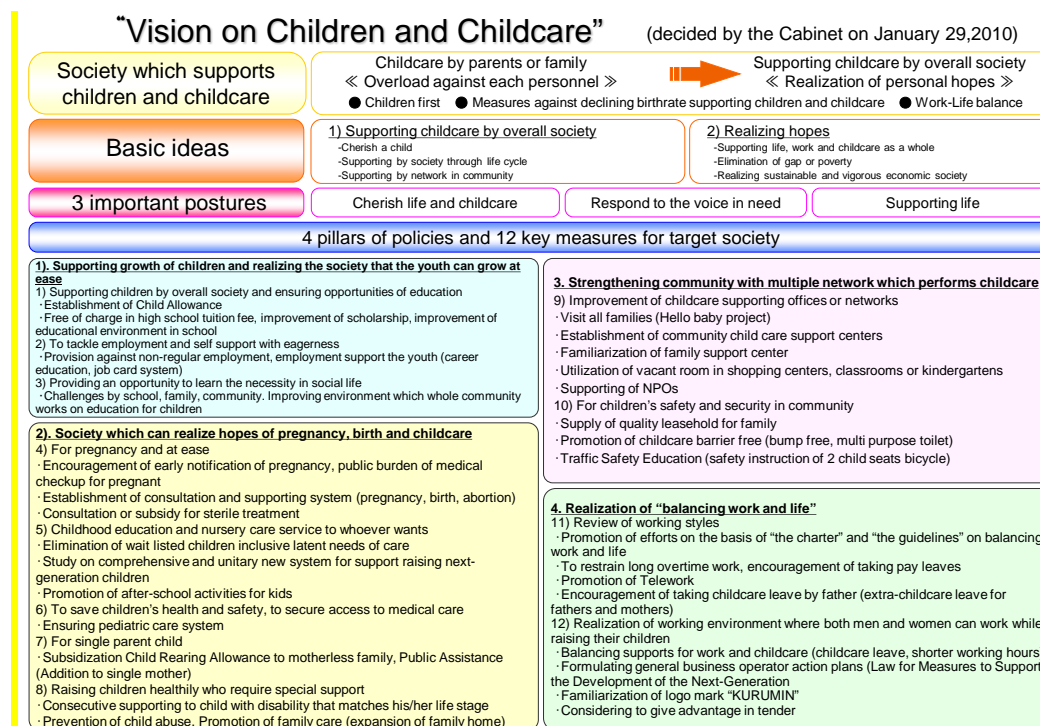


## (Vision on Children and Childcare)

Towards the aim of support by total society children and childcare for a society in which the children of the next generation can grow stronger and healthier with full of smiling, the 'Vision' is devised to shift the perspective from the countermeasures against declining birthrate to the 'children and childcare support' and support childcare by overall society, based on the concept of 'Children First', and target the 'balancing life, work and childcare'. its efforts

Furthermore, as the basic idea, 'supporting the childcare community throughout the whole society', and 'the "hopes" to be fulfilled' are listed, and as support measures of children and childcare, three important attitudes is expressed.: '1. Value life and growth' '2. Answer the voices of those who seek help' '3. Support the living'. Given the important position of these three points, the concrete initiatives will be promoted in accordance to the "4 pillars of policy" and '12 major initiatives' aiming for the ideal society'.

Figure 1-1-2: Summery of the Vision on Children and Childcare



## Main targets

<p><b>Pregnancy and childbirth can be assured</b></p> <p>[ Current ] [ Target value in 2014 ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Number of beds NICU (Per 10,000 births) (Neonatal Intensive Care Management Office) 21.2 ⇒ 25 - 30</li> <li>○ Counseling Center specializing in infertility 55 Cities ⇒ All prefectures and designated cities, core cities</li> </ul>	<p><b>Improve regional childcare</b></p> <p>[ Current ] [ Target value in 2014 ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community child care support centers 7100 places ⇒ 10000 places</li> <li>○ Family project Support Center 570 ⇒ 950 municipalities</li> <li>○ Temporary keeping (total number of days) 348 ⇒ 3952 (10000 days)</li> <li>○ Support and child care through the use of free store mall 49 places ⇒ 100 places</li> </ul>
<p><b>Elimination of children waiting lists for nurseries to support the childcare</b></p> <p>[ Current ] [ Target value in 2014 ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Daytime childcare services 215 (10000 persons) ⇒ 241 (10000 persons)</li> <li>○ Utilization of child care services for children under 3 years old (750 000 persons (24%)) ⇒ (1.02 million persons (35%))</li> <li>○ 79 (10000 persons) ⇒ 96 (10000 persons)</li> <li>○ Childcare services, such as extension 31 (10000 days) ⇒ 200 (10000 days)</li> <li>○ Care for sick children and infant illness 358 (places) ⇒ more than 2000 (places) [2012]</li> <li>○ Certification children garden 81 (10000 persons) ⇒ 111 (10000 persons)</li> <li>○ After school clubs</li> </ul>	<p><b>Promote participation of men in childcare</b></p> <p>[ Current ] [ Target value in 2014 ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Percentage of employees working more than 60 hours per week 10 % ⇒ Reduction by half (2017)</li> <li>○ Men-rate childcare leave 1.23 % ⇒ 10 % (2017)</li> <li>○ Time-related childcare and housework of men with children under the age of 6 (Per day) 60 minutes ⇒ 2 hours 30 minutes (2017)</li> </ul> <p>* Reference index</p>
<p><b>Improvement of social care</b></p> <p>[ Current ] [ Target value in 2014 ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Adoption commission rate, etc. 10.4 % ⇒ 16 %</li> <li>○ Small group care in orphanages 446 places ⇒ 800 places</li> </ul>	<p><b>Initiatives and corporate-easy-to-childcare way of working</b></p> <p>[ Current ] [ Target value in 2014 ]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rate of female employment duration before and after the first child birth 38 % ⇒ 55 %(2017) *Reference index</li> <li>○ Text-Generation Certification logo "KURUMIN", the number of acquiring companies 652 ⇒ 2000 companies</li> </ul>

Note: In the table above, describing the latest figures obtained in the vision when planning as a 'status quo'.

In addition, based on this vision, by all of the government, it has been decided to vigorously promote measures for the realization of a society having a dream to bring and raise children into the world, while the numerical targets are set by around five year period from FY 2010 to FY 2014 have been raised.

In addition, in the vision, based on the results of periodical checks and evaluations progress of the relevant measures, it is necessary to perform reexamination. For this reason, in FY 2011 the examination of intermediate check and evaluations will be performed.

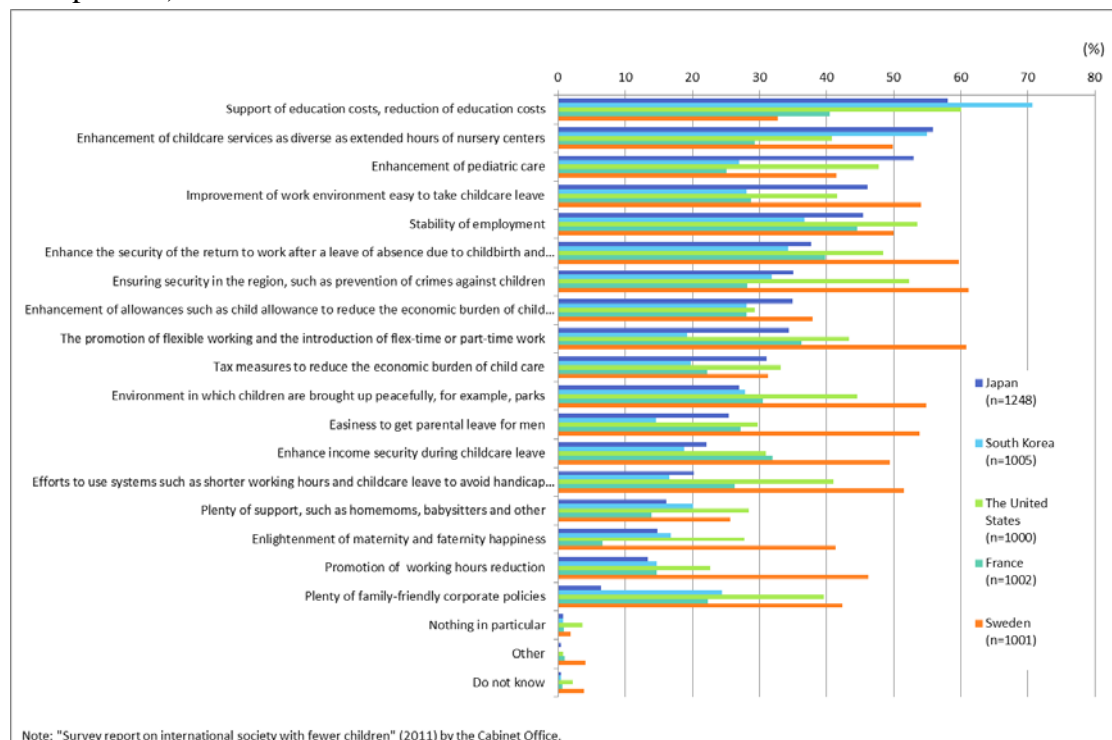
### **(Support Measures for Children and Childcare that have been Rated as Important)**

According to 'International Awareness Survey on the Declining Birthrate Society' (2011), the highest percentage of cited people considered the important measures for child support in Japan to be the 'reduction and support for education costs', followed by 'extended hours of nursery, enhancement of various childcare services', the 'enhancement of pediatric care', and 'development of workplace environments that make it easy to take maternity leave'. From this, it is disclosed that benefits in the financial sector such as child allowance and high schools benefits etc., benefits in kind such as nursery services, the necessity to promote work-life balance are required. These concepts have been incorporated into the vision.

**(Elimination of Child Daycare Center Waiting Lists ‘Advance acceptance’ project)**

Since the waiting-lists for children have become a serious problem, especially in urban areas, in order to respond quickly without waiting for the implementation in 2013 of the ‘New System for Children and Childcare’ (for more information refer to Part 1, Chapter 1, Section 2, hereinafter referred to as the ‘new system’), ‘Mission Zero Waiting Children Team’ has been established in October 2010, by the instruction of the Prime Minister.

Figure 1-1-3: Childcare Support which is Considered Important (International Comparison)



In order to come up with effective measures, not being caught in the existing rules and stereotypes, based on interviews with local government and the willingness to tackle the problem of children on waiting lists, the mission team compiled the ‘working integrally with national and local governments to eliminate waiting children, “Advance acceptance” project’ (hereinafter referred to as the “Advance Acceptance” Project’), on November 29<sup>th</sup> of the same year.

Instead of continuing to offer ‘following’ childcare after seeing the number of children on the waiting list, the ‘advance acceptance’ project will forecast the potential childcare needs and will proceed in the planned manner of ‘Advance acceptance’ along with making ‘advance acceptance’ efforts for the idea of the new system. In FY 2011, this project will be carried out for the local governments to willingly continue to implement efforts to eliminate the problem of waiting lists for children and in the case that measures in the project get high effects and same effects

in other area are expected, the measures will be carried out in all prefectures in the new system.

Figure 1-1-4: Summary of the ‘working integrally with national and local governments to eliminate waiting children, “Advance acceptance” project’

