

Agenda for the Evolution of the Growth Strategy (January 20th, 2014, Industrial Competitiveness Council)

- Since the Cabinet's adoption of the Japan Revitalization Strategy last June, working groups of the Industrial Competitiveness Council, cooperating with relevant panels, have intensively discussed various issues to make the strategy an "evolving growth strategy." The government will make further discussion according to this agenda and reflect it in the revision of the "growth strategy," which is expected in the middle of this year.
- To raise the potential growth rate and to bring the country's economy to a sustainable growth path, agenda are provided from the following three viewpoints.

I. Creating a world-class environment where workers and enterprises can fulfill their potential.

1. Working-Style reforms including promotion of active social participation by women

- **Realizing Japan where women can play active roles.**
 - Enhancing after-school childcare program for elementary school students to enable their mothers to work, tax and social security systems neutral to working styles, establishing a new panel for the promotion of the policy, etc.
- **Building a society where flexible and diversified working styles are available**
 - Introducing an employment system based on concrete job description, appropriate easing of working-hour regulations (realizing creative working styles that cannot be measured by time), etc.
- **Building "a society where peoples can develop their skills outside enterprises and move to appropriate jobs"**

2. Inside-globalization of Japanese Society

- **Developing an environment for accepting foreigners, revising the industrial training and technical internship program**
 - Creating a control tower in the government for accepting foreign human resources, identifying areas in which foreign human resources should be utilized and the number of foreigners to be accepted, institutional reforms for developing a living environment for foreigners, etc.
- **Promoting foreign direct investment**
 - Utilizing high-level panels including ministerial meetings to discuss requests from global business executives, etc.
- **Making Japan an international financial center**
- **Enhancing the functions of airports in metropolitan areas**

3. Acceleration of innovation, venture and IT and improving business environments

- **Rebuilding the research and development environment to create innovations**
- **Promoting business ventures to create innovations**
- **Establishing rules to promote broader use of IT**
- **A tax system that vitalizes the private sector**
- **Improving business environments through stabilizing and reducing the cost of energy supply**

II. Developing industries that have not been regarded as growth sectors into new growth engines

1. Developing medical and nursing care services into a growth sector and Securing sustainability of social security system

- **Reform of health-care and social welfare corporation system to promote integrated medical and nursing care services**
 - Creating a "nonprofit holding company system," reforming medical corporation regulations, etc.
- **Insurance system reforms to fulfill needs of patients and enhance the competitiveness of medical services**
 - Reviewing the treatment of patient-selected extra medical services in the public health-care insurance, a system for continuing uninsured use of less-cost-efficient medical treatment techniques, introducing a cost-benefit analysis for insurance coverage assessment, etc.
- **Invigorating health-care businesses outside public insurance coverage such as disease prevention and health promotion services**
- **Utilizing ICTs in medical and nursing care services**

2. Reforms to turn agriculture into a growth sector

- **Utilizing knowhow of private companies, promoting farmers' entry into businesses such as food-processing and retailing (the "6th industry")**
- **Promoting export of agriculture-forestry-fisheries and food products**
- **Other measures to promote further entry of various motivated entities into agriculture**
 - Reviewing agricultural committees, agricultural corporations and agricultural cooperatives (cooperation with the Regulatory Reform Council), etc.

III. Spreading fruits of economic growth to rural regions and SMEs, creating new sustainable regional communities

- **Forming vigorous, sustainable regional communities and developing a "grand design" of regional community to realize long-term development**
- **Promoting regional growth strategies**
- **Vitalizing small and medium-sized enterprises**
 - Promoting cooperation between SMEs utilizing regional resources, activating structural SME reforms, etc.
- **Increasing the number of foreigners visiting Japan**
- **Developing environments and arrangements for promoting PPP (public-private partnership)/PFI (private finance initiative)**