

Basic Policy

(Cabinet Decision of September 2, 2011)

[Provisional Translation]

The three political-level appointees [of each Ministry], headed by each Cabinet Minister, will devote themselves to their duties in accordance with the following Basic Policy.

1. We will revisit the starting point of the change of Government in 2009, and in accordance with our concept of “putting people’s daily lives first,” we will work towards the realization of politics that is oriented towards the general public, thus ensuring that the people of Japan can feel the true significance of the change of Government.
2. Each Cabinet Minister will work in close cooperation with his or her Cabinet colleagues without seeking to further the interests of only one ministry, and will make concerted efforts under the leadership of Prime Minister Noda to address policy challenges both domestically and overseas. In addition, each Cabinet Minister will practice “dialogue-based politics,” listening humbly to the voices of the people of Japan and providing clear explanations, as well as promoting cooperation between ruling and opposition parties.
3. In order to root out “waste in public administration” and break free from vested interests, we will continue with government revitalization efforts and further strengthen them.
4. In order to swiftly revitalize societies and the economy and rebuild livelihoods in the areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, in addition to further accelerating recovery and reconstruction efforts based on the “Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake,” we will also work to overcome energy constraints in the near term. Furthermore, based on a concept that “without the revitalization of Fukushima there can be no revitalization for Japan,” we will make every endeavor to bring the nuclear power station accident to a swift conclusion and ensure the payment of compensation to those people affected by the disaster as well as the implementation of “decontamination” efforts. In this regard, we will implement measures under the concept of “Children First” by prioritizing responses to children, who will bear the future of this country, as well as pregnant women.

5. In addition to constructing measures to counteract the hollowing out of domestic industry, including bold means to address the appreciation of the yen, we will appropriately address international credit uncertainty and ensure that both economic growth and the restoration of fiscal health can be achieved in tandem.
6. In order to steadily and surely implement the necessary measures to strengthen the functions of social security, while at the same time ensuring that social security as a whole remains sustainable, we will work to swiftly formulate a final draft of the proposal for the comprehensive reform of social security and taxation systems.
7. In order to build a “Japan with hope and pride,” we will advance policies that seek out new frontiers and achieve mid to long-term growth; devise and create sustainable regional development models; and develop human resources capable of making an impact in the global arena.
8. In addition to further advancing foreign policy based on the linchpin of the Japan-United States alliance, we will engage in efforts to respond to a multi-polar world, deepening multi-faceted ties with the countries of Asia and others. Furthermore, we will advance economic diplomacy including high-level economic partnerships and securing of energy resources.
9. Towards establishing the full-fledged practice of “politicians taking the initiative on policy making rather than the bureaucracy” the three political-level appointees and government officials will clearly delineate their respective roles and responsibilities and engage in the close sharing of information with each other and in mutual communication. In this way, they will maximize their various strengths, thus ensuring that the government works as a unified whole in the execution of policy management.