Aims and Main Themes of "Council for Designing 100-Year Life Society"

◇　Japan has become a longevity society with the world's longest healthy life expectancy. According to a study conducted overseas (research referred to in "*The 100-Year Life*" by Lynda Gratton), a child born in Japan in 2007 has a 50 percent chance of living to be 107 years old. We would like to launch an endeavor to establish new role models in Japan's super longevity society.

◇　We should explore how we vibrantly live and work in a super longevity society and what economic and social systems are viable for such a society. These questions constitute a fundamental concept that underlays "the human resources development" pursued by the government.

◇　To realize such a social system, the Council for Designing 100-Year Life Society is established to formulate a grand design for the policies to be implemented by the government over the next four years.

Concrete Themes of the Council

(1) Secure educational opportunities that are open to all people. Reduce the cost burden of education. Promote recurrent education for adults who want to resume their education at any age

(2) Reform higher education* to address the above issues

　　* Conventional liberal arts courses for young students offered at universities alone may be insufficient in meeting the needs of society.

(3) Diversify corporate hiring practices*, going beyond the current practice of hiring new graduates once a year. Introduce various formats for elderly employment

　　* This is a key to securing capable human resources. Companies cannot secure necessary human resources only by employing new graduates all at once.

(4) The current social security system emphasizes benefits for the elderly based on the three stages of youth and students, adults and workers, and retired elderly. This elderly-centered system will be reformed into a social security system that equally benefits all cohorts of the population.

◇　We will compile an interim report by the end of this year, followed by a basic design with a policy package scheduled for release in the first half of 2018.