

142. Expanding and improving the conditions in the field of welfare work

We will strive to expand the field of local welfare workers (medical care, nursing care, child rearing) and improve their working conditions.

143. Teleworking

Teleworking⁴³ is a method to work flexibly regardless of location or time and offers increasing employment opportunities for local residents, elderly people, disabled people or couples with children. It also supports realizing a society that ensures work-life balance and an enriched life. By 2015, we will double the number of teleworkers to seven million people.

144. Revitalizing solidarity in local communities

To revive the bonds in weakened areas, we will establish the “Act on Community Activity” to support groups conducting community-based activities such as neighborhood associations or self-governing associations. Additionally, we will create a system (point system) to evaluate activities contributing to communities or the society in general by a point system.

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145. Activation of shopping districts

As “local community leader”, the expectations of residents concerning shopping districts have increased. By using the angel tax system, we will support training and business guidance in the management of shopping districts and new businesses. We support both soft and hardware efforts to regenerate shopping streets, make effective use of vacant stores, connect arcades with public transportation facilities, maintain parking lots and bicycle parking spaces as well as install energy-saving street lights. We will promote the creation of “family-friendly and comfortable” shopping streets as part of a city planning that takes social issues like aging, safety, security and environment into consideration. By restoring the bustle of stations and central urban areas, we will also connect cities with the regional economy.

146. Enhancement of fire brigades

A quick response to severe earthquakes like the Tokai, Tonankai and Nankai earthquakes is an urgent task. In order to secure the safety of residential areas, we will work on enhancing the equipment of fire brigades and firefighters and activate disaster prevention organization, regional disaster prevention capabilities while also promoting the earthquake resistance of public facilities.

147. Supporting regional organization and NPOs

By revising the Act on the Promotion of Specified Nonprofit Activities (NPO Law) and by dramatically expanding and simplifying the certified NPO corporation system, we will work on supporting volunteer organizations such as nonprofit organizations enabling everyone to participate.

⁴³ Teleworking (or telecommuting) is a working style that enables flexible work without constraints of time or location by using information communication equipment. The word “telework” is a coined word in Japan, but is also done in Europe or the United States.

148. Measures for remote islands

Based on the fact that routes to remote islands play the same role as national highways on the mainland, the importance to secure transportation methods (routes and airways) to remote islands is clarified by the “Law on the Maintenance of (Air) Routes to Remote Islands”. We will financially support people who have to commute between remote islands and the mainland to reach high schools. We will work on correct information about terrestrial digital broadcasting, on enhancing medical treatment and on creating measures against emissions for remote islands.

For Amami and Ogasawara, we will subsidize all costs of petroleum transportation between the mainland and the islands.

149. Measures for depopulated areas

Under the leadership of our party, the “Law on Special Measures for Depopulated Areas” was extended. In the revised law, we incorporate the use of software projects requested by people from depopulated areas to enable measures meeting the specific circumstances of depopulated areas like for example doctors or community busses.

Our party will continue to consider the current situation and problems of depopulated areas and work on countermeasures.

150. Extension of the “Act on Special Measures for the Regional Promotion of Nuclear Power Facilities”

We will take every effort to ensure the trust of local residents into the safety and security of nuclear power plants. At the same time, we revised the “Law on Special Measures for the Regional Promotion of Nuclear Power Facilities”, extended it for 10 year and expanded the scope of special measures.

151. Stabilizing people’s consumption and consumer administration

By further enforcing the Consumer Agency and Consumer Committee, we will acquire a society enabling consumers to lead a safe consumer life and a “one stop window” to grant every citizen access. We will aim to fundamentally strengthen regional consumer administration, including the support for consumer counseling, and enhance financial policies to meet financial needs by support and administrative sanctions.

Also, we will enrich the consumer litigation system to alleviate the burden on victims. Furthermore, and in order to support people’s self-reliance concerning consumption, the opportunity to acquire information and realize an improved environment is integrated by the “promoting consumer education” (provisional name) by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

152. Strengthening security measures based the “declaration to become one of the eight safest countries in the world”

With the “declaration to become one of the eight safest countries in the world” in 2008, we will promote town development that eliminates crime, fraud, responds to violent crimes and deals with matters threatening life safety. We will also promote measure for a secure cyber space, against

organizational crime, against firearms and drug abuse and we will implement countermeasures against terrorism and illegal residents. We will also develop methods to collect objective evidence to improve the death cause investigation system. At the next Diet session, we will also establish a “Law on a Safe and Secure Community Planning” and will support those who are striving for security measures like neighborhood watch groups.

153. Revised plan for victims of crime

Five years have passed since the enactment of the “Basic Law on Victims of Crime”, which our party formulated in cooperation with crime victim groups and crime victim support groups and by which the crime victims benefit system was expanded (July 2008). A number of measures were implemented including the national defense system for victims (December of the same year), the establishment of a compensation system (December of the same year), establishment of a juvenile hearing attendance system (December of the same year) and others more. However, financial support for organized crime victims and victims support groups is inadequate, and the creation of funds for victims is a major challenge. Since every citizen potentially becomes a crime victim, we revised the basic law for crime victims and settled the unresolved problems by keeping in mind the viewpoint of crime victims.

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154. Halve traffic accident deaths

We promote comprehensive traffic safety measures, like safe driving support systems, to eliminate drunk driving or traffic accidents of elderly people and sophisticate the ITS so that the number of traffic accident deaths of about 5.000 people will be halved in the next 6 years.

155. Strengthen suicide measures

The number of suicide deaths in Japan has remained at a high level exceeding 30.000 people for twelve consecutive years since 1998. To reduce the number of suicide deaths by more than 30% over next two years, we will introduce industrial physicians and specialists, enhance the quality of professional staff and take measures toward an early detection of depression in our society. Furthermore, in order to rescue as many people thinking of suicide as possible, we will promote visible measures such as setting up security doors at railway stations.

156. Promotion of youth health

Since juvenile delinquency and crime victims among young people must be prevented, we are working on establishing effective laws including the Basic Law for Young People’s Development to prevent young people from living in a harmful social environment. We will promote comprehensive policies for optimizing our society by, for example, business operators. Also, we will prevent crime victims of harassment on the internet and promote measures for online youth safety and security.

We will promote the support of young people having difficulties such as NEET or freeters and strengthen regional cooperation for a smooth social life. We will also improve cram schools and work towards the self-reliance of our youth.

157. Consultation system for gender equality and DV⁴⁴ victims

We promote a social environment with equality for both sexes across generations in all areas like communities, workplaces or homes. We will strengthen the consultation system for victims of domestic violence especially at night and on Saturdays and Sundays to eradicate violence against women, including violence from spouses.

Protecting our green planet and rich nature

It is our responsibility to provide a beautiful planet for next generations. To overcome the stagnating international negotiations on the Framework Convention on Climate Change, Japan will demonstrate its leadership towards the creation of a new framework.

158. Completely new international framework for reducing greenhouse gases

To overcome the stagnation of the international negotiations on the Framework Convention on Climate Change, we will propose a global framework to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

To contribute to the application of state-of-the-art greenhouse gas reduction technology in Africa, the expenses for introducing bio-technology and state-of-the-art technology will be compensated by a new fund (Earth Relief Fund (provisional name)).

The fund's financial resources can be covered by establishing carbon taxes or international solidarity taxes that do not change competition conditions among different countries. As a result, strong incentives to introduce state-of-the-art technology in developing countries will be possible, without burdening developing countries with financial debts.

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159. Reduce greenhouse gas emission by 15% in 20 years

We established the "Law for Promoting a Low Carbon Society" to create an equitable and effective post-Kyoto⁴⁵ international framework and with the participation of major economies to realize our long-term goals. We aim to realize a low-carbon society with 80% reduced greenhouse gas emissions and a 15% reduction (reduction of domestic emissions) compared to 2005 as a medium-term target until 2020. Also, we will create new industries and employment, strengthen the international competitiveness of those and further secure energy security to not lose significant employment opportunities. Based on this, we will push forward to create a low-carbon society as a new civilized society.

160. 20% renewable energy

We aim to raise the proportion of renewable energy to 20% of the overall energy consumption by 2020.

⁴⁴ Short form for „Domestic Violence“. Domestic violence is mostly carried out in families by spouses, partners, parents, children, brothers or other relatives.

⁴⁵ The Framework Convention on Climate Change sets „new targets“ to reduce global greenhouse gases from 2008 to 2012 as a post Kyoto Protocol.

To achieve this, (1) we aim to recapture the world's top solar photovoltaic power generation, introduce a fixed price system for renewable energy and install solar panels at all public facilities to expand solar power to 20 times of the current level. (2) While fully paying attention to the natural environment and landscape, we will promote geothermal power plants and cut regulations to allow geothermal power plants to be installed in national parks. (3) We promote the sophistication of electric power systems. (4) We promote the use of renewable energy by people and businesses.

We will also promote the expansion of biomass energy that will effectively utilize waste and the development of wind power and small hydroelectric power methods.

161. Nuclear policy

In order to solve the problem of global warming, nuclear power is indispensable because it does not produce global warming gas. Therefore, we will develop a system responding to Japan's energy security and meeting the demand without causing environmental problems.

Meanwhile, we will maintain inspections and national safety reviews to be able to supply the future energy demand and strengthen the development of international nuclear technology in Japan as well as improving the ratio of nuclear power to the amount of power generation.

We review the organization and promote internationally trusted nuclear policies. To further promote the thermal project⁴⁶, we will continue our efforts to gain public understand for the need to establish a system for the disposal of nuclear fuel⁴⁷ and high-level radioactive waste⁴⁸.

162. Policy for energy security

Most of the energy consumed in Japan depends on imports. Naturally, the Japanese economy is heavily influenced by global energy trends such as crude oil prices. It is to be remembered that the surge in global oil prices of last year casted a shadow over the Japanese economy. Since Japan has only few own resources, energy security is one of the big challenges.

Therefore, we will improve the energy self-sufficiency rate (now 18%, including nuclear power) from 30 to 40% until 2030 and expand the ratio of renewable energy⁴⁹ from 34 to 50% in 2020 and 70% in 2030.

163. Securing basic energy resources such as oil, coal and natural gas

To secure fundamental energy resources like coal, natural gas or petroleum, we will develop a strategic resource diplomacy to support advanced technology in Japan and we will establish a structure capable of coping with fluctuations in resources. To realize the "low carbon society", we

⁴⁶ The thermal project plan aims to burn „MOX fuel“ mixed with oxides of plutonium and uranium created by reprocessing spent nuclear fuel at ordinary nuclear power plants. It plans to effectively use uranium and is an international pledge not have a surplus of plutonium that could be used for nuclear weapons.

⁴⁷ Describes the reuse of nuclear fuel from used up power generator at nuclear power plants via the refinement and enrichment of uranium and the processing nuclear fuel (combination of fuels). Also involves the disposal of radioactive waste so that it can be used for various means.

⁴⁸ Generic name for waste containing radioactive substances. These are mainly emitted from nuclear facilities, facilities related to nuclear weapons, laboratory facilities using radioactive isotopes and gamma ray sources from hospitals.

⁴⁹ An energy source (or generated energy) that is derived from the energy flow and repeated in the natural world and regenerated at a speed equal or higher than in nature.

will not only work on strategically securing fossil fuels, but also utilize Japan's outstanding advanced energy technologies to develop an industrial sector for energy. We will aim for a more efficient supply, demand and change of fuels. LP gas can contribute to the realization of a low-carbon society since it is low in CO₂ emissions. Therefore, we will encourage the introduction of high-efficiency gas applications and LPG vehicle and boost fuel transformation.

164. Measures against fluorocarbons

CFCs, which are the cause of global warming, will be eliminated to reduce emissions and we will develop alternative substances and products using sustainable substances.

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165. High-speed eco cars and modal shift

We will promote a subsidizing system for eco cars which are friendly to the environment. Along with the automobile green tax system, we will increase the demand to one million units per year and will promote that one out of two new cars will be an eco car by 2020.

We are committed to contribution to global warming countermeasures, such as mass production of electric vehicles which will lead the development of the Japanese economy and we will promote the world's fastest eco car such as electric or hybrid cars.

The modal shift (from automobiles to transportation with less greenhouse gas emissions) will be realized by dispatching goods by railroads or ships, creating convenient public transportation facilities and improving sidewalks and bicycle paths.

166. Construction of eco houses

By 2030, 80% of new houses will be eco houses⁵⁰ and also public buildings will be eco houses saving energy and accelerating the zero-emission of buildings.

167. Mechanisms to achieve a low carbonization country

We will support the economy to incorporate the low-carbon ideal and take regulatory measures to promote emission reductions in all socio-economic sectors. We will decide on a policy to take necessary measures regarding emissions trading and evaluate implementations related to greenhouse gas emission in Japan. To promote low carbonization and still take the impact on the international competitiveness of our national economy and industry into consideration, it is necessary to reconsider the inclusion of an environmental tax into the tax system and change living behaviors of the society and economy. We will promote an overall greening of our tax system.

168. Environmental businesses

To contribute to the preservation of the global environment while also contributing to superior environmental technologies and businesses, we will financially support the development of new technologies and their export and guarantee investments and loans for environmental businesses. We will promote the creation of new businesses helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

⁵⁰ Housing with reduced burden on the environment. It is also called environmental symbiosis house, ecological house, etc.

Furthermore, we will promote widening the eco-point and the “visualization” of environmental information of products and services so that environmental performance will be an important ideal in the market.

In addition, we will attempt to promote a “carbon offset” system as a new environmental business model so that citizens and business operator will offset their own CO2 emissions.

169. Carbon dioxide offset during the House of Councilors election

The Liberal Democratic Party candidates will offset the amount of carbon dioxide emissions during their campaigning activities.

170. New environmental targeting policy

We will select a technical development field that is expected to produce a huge demand as a national project such as storage batteries, fuel cells, next generation cars or smart grid⁵¹.

We will also publish energy-saving technologies which are the strength of Japan. For example, we aim to disseminate advanced technologies for excellent energy efficiency of the Japanese manufacturing industry, including the steel and iron industry, via thermal efficiency, heat pumps, electric vehicles or storage batteries. We will also promote CCS (Carbon Dioxide Separation Storage)⁵². By developing new technologies, we will contribute to the worldwide carbon dioxide reduction.

171. Low-carbon society and environmental education

The low-carbon society will be realized via the 10-year plan of education on sustainable development (ESD). We will contribute to the development of human resources in Asia.

Furthermore, we will promote education and learning on environmental conservation (environmental education), enhance public relations activities and support grassroots activities. In particular, in order to enhance environmental education at home, school, workplaces and all other places, we will promote new teaching materials, the development of human resources, environmental friendly school facilities and improve learning about the environment.

We will also revise the Environmental Education and Environmental Conservation Promotion Act as the foundation to promote environmental education and environmental conservation activities and enhance environmental education at schools.

172. National campaign

Deepened relationships between business operators and citizens are important to create a low-carbon society. We will raise a national campaign to construct the low-carbon society by voluntary actions of each citizen and a change of business style. It will entail various public relations events and will use 7th July “Cool Earth Day” every year.

⁵¹ An electric grid that enables the optimization of electric power supply without supervision by installing measuring instruments etc. It is equipped with artificial intelligence and communication functions and automatically adjusts the supply and demand of electricity.

⁵² It is possible to artificially gather carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere as CCS (Carbon Dioxide Separation Storage) gas or just before it is released. It is contained in the underground or water.

173. Adapting to global warming

In order to promote measures for adapting to global warming, we have to implement the preservation of biodiversity, the life and health of people and the living conditions in a comprehensive and systematic manner while also maintaining the productive capacity of agriculture, forestry and fishery, and improving social capital.

In particular, we will improve the observation and monitoring system concerning the impact of global warming and will also promote the protection of biodiversity, the prevention of infectious diseases, the improvement of agricultural crops and the prevention of damages from floods, storm surges, droughts or sediment disasters as systematic measures to adapt to global warming.

174. Disclosure of information about greenhouse gas emissions

We will develop and enrich statistics on greenhouse gas emissions and the progress of measures necessary for a low-carbon society and immediately publish the results.

Additionally, we will promote information disclosure on greenhouse gases emitted by business activities that take all aspects of a low-carbon society into consideration.

175. Green ICT

By using information communication systems, we promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, an adequate use of energy or traffic and will rationalize the distribution, production and consumption of goods.

176. International leadership on COP 10

In pursuit of the success of the COP 10 (the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity) to be held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, in 2010, we aim to demonstrate international leadership and become a developed country that ensures biodiversity.

177. Mechanism to regain a rich natural environment

We will try to create a mechanism to revive the forest of which party were lost during the war and secure biodiversity to resurge the forest in our birthplace while acting on the declining population.

For future town planning as well as infrastructural and regional development, we have to take measures to preserve the environment in an era of a declining population. In addition to promoting a compact and environmental community development, we will revitalize forests and undeveloped woodland near populated areas and secure biodiversity. By doing this, we will create sustainable urban living spaces in the 21st century where cities and national environment coexist.

178. Realizing national parks to secure biodiversity

Based on the revised national park law which was established in May 2009, we will promote national parks representing our beautiful country and make Japan more attractive while maintaining and recovering ecosystems.

In addition to setting up national parks to preserve the natural environment, we promote ecotourism, the protection of hot springs and rangers (nature conservation officer) and involve NPOs into the project of protecting our environment.

179. Protecting and managing rare fauna and flora

We will work on widespread responses across prefectures to protect and control wild birds and animals as to not damage agriculture and ecosystems. Also, we will try to prevent rare species such as *toki* from returning to the wild to prevent damages to ecosystems by alien species.

180. A society coexisting with animals

We will revise the “Animal Welfare Management Law” to eliminate the “mass killing of dogs and cats” and will maintain stray dog facilities to create a society coexisting with animals.

181. Creating a recycling-oriented society that makes use of local resources

We will accelerate our society to be a recycling-oriented society and will leave no “impious” mind and will therefore promote the “3R” efforts: reduce, reuse and recycle. In cooperation with the government, municipalities and other organizations we will promote the reuse of wastewater and biomass for energy generation as well as cooperative networks on low-carbon recycling.

182. Domestic wastewater measures and eradication of illegal dumping

As effective domestic wastewater measures, we will promote the dissemination of merger septic tanks and improve the system to optimize water management while obtaining the understanding of municipalities and other entities.

To ensure proper disposal of industrial waste, we will also promote the prevention of illegal dumping in order to protect the beautiful landscape of Japan.

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183. Children’s health and environment

It is a basic duty of any government to preserve a safe and affluent environment that allows people to live in peace. Therefore, we will attempt to minimize the impact of chemical substances on the environment so that the nature is preserved for children and future generations. We will also promote safety assessments on chemical substances, by taking international trends into account.

184. Conservation of a safe environment including the atmosphere, water and soil

Regarding environmental preservation, we are dealing with new issues like fine particulate matter (PM 2.5), photochemical oxidant as well as poor oxygenation of the bottom layers of lakes and bays. We are required to address these issues. In particular, we will try to revitalize the lake environment in accordance with the creation of coastal areas with abundant natural blessings (so-called *satoumi*) while keeping in mind specific characteristics.

Based on the Coastal Area Disposal Act, we will promote countermeasures in prioritizes areas to ensure an intact marine environment. Additionally, we will steadily implement countermeasures and a law against soil contamination by, for example, factories.

185. **Steady implementation of pollution countermeasures**

We will steadily implement pollution health damage countermeasures like taking measures against asbestos and supporting asbestos victims to solve health problems.

We will continue to promote necessary countermeasures such as environmental investigations on the elimination of domestic poison gas.

186. **“Greening eco point system” to promote greening of privately owned land**

To promote the greening of privately owned land and urban parks (planting in privately owned land, planting lawns, roof or wall greening), eco points according to the type of planting and the age of plants will be given by implementing a “greening eco point system”. This system will give points every year according to the specific planting and will grant reduction on utility fees.

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Rebuilding diplomacy and building world peace

Protecting the people’s lives and wealth is the primary obligation of our nation. We will strengthen the protection of our country and build world peace. We will promptly restore the trust in the relationship between Japan and the United States and will maintain peace in the Asian-Pacific region by maintaining and deepening the Japan-US alliance as the basis of Japan’s diplomacy.

187. **Rebuilding a strong Japan-US alliance**

The Japan-US alliance is the cornerstone of Japan’s diplomacy as well as the cornerstone for peace and stability in the Asian-Pacific region. Due to the stagnation of diplomacy by the DPJ government, the trust in the relationship between Japan and the United States is greatly impaired. We will continue to make efforts to strengthen the effectiveness of Japan’s defense capability by preventing a further weakened alliance, maintaining deterrence capabilities and restructuring the US forces in Japan to reduce the local burden, for example, on Okinawa. In addition, we will promote cooperation in a wide range of fields such as security, politics, economics, disaster prevention, health and medical care, education and environmental problems to further deepen the Japan-US alliance.

188. **A free, rich and stable Asia**

We will strive to promote friendship and cooperation with neighboring countries to realize a rich and stable Asia. We will build a broad cooperative relationship with China, South Korea and the ASEAN countries that will contribute not only to bilateral relationships but also to peace, stability and development in Asia and the whole world.

In order to strengthen Asia’s economic power from a medium- to long-term perspective, we aim at wide-area development (smooth flows of human resources and money) and will contribute measures to expand domestic demand in Asia.

189. Resolving the abduction issue

Abduction is a serious crime committed by states. To ensure all abducted people can return to their home and to thoroughly investigate the truth and indict offenders, it is necessary to fortify a full ban on “people trafficking”, to fully suspend remittance, to strengthen sanction and to offer investigations of specific missing people aside from government certifications.

On the premise that we will not economically support North Korea unless specific progress is made toward the resolution of the abduction issue, we strongly urge North Korea to redo a full investigation of the abduction issue and we will realize the return of all abducted victims.

190. Prevention of North Korea’s nuclear program

Aside from the abduction issue, nuclear and missile issues are of fundamental concern. North Korea’s nuclear tests and missile launches are serious threats to Japan’s security and we will take actions based on resolutions of the UN Security Council and in consent with other concerned nations to continue measures against North Korea.

191. Striving to solve territorial issues

Since we want to protect the territory of our country, we will continue to tenaciously negotiate with an energetic and strong will for a peaceful resolution of the problem of the Northern Territories and Takeshima, since these areas are still illegally occupied. There are no territorial dispute in the Senkaku Islands but since the East China Sea issue exists, we will continue to make resolute efforts to make the East China Sea “a sea of true friendship”.

As a premise, we will advance our national campaign and strive to advertise awareness on territorial disputes.

192. Securing marine resources and marine interests

Based on the “Basic Law of the Sea” formulated by our party, we will secure our country’s marine interests including the promotion of the development and use of marine resources and the development of Exclusive Economic Zones. We promote intensive development and use of resources while promoting environmental conservation and harmony and support our marine industry so that we truly become an ocean ruling country.

193. Anti-piracy measures

For Japan, navigational safety and maritime security are directly linked to the prosperity of our nation. To protect the life and property of Japanese citizens, countermeasures against piracy are urgent. We have worked on countermeasures against piracy by strengthening the maritime enforcement capacity of coastal nations, but we will continue to intensively work to counter piracy in Somalia and the Gulf of Aden in cooperation with the international community.

194. Fight against terrorism

Our Supply Assistance Activities⁵³ in the Indian Ocean are part of the “fight against terrorism” in cooperation with the international community and the support to rebuild Afghanistan. Supply support activities implemented by Japan are an important foundation for international maritime activities in the Indian Ocean and have received high acclaim from each country. Moreover, those activities not only contribute to the interests of the international community but also to the national interests of Japan by securing important sea routes connecting Japan and the Middle East. Our party is against “check diplomacy”. As a member of the international community, we will aim to establish the “Special Measures for Supply Support Law” in order to immediately restart the supply support activities in the Indian Ocean.

195. Nuclear disarmament

We will take the initiative to strengthen the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime. We will promote realistic and concrete efforts especially concerning nuclear disarmament. Also, in order to maintain security, we will start a fundamental discussion on our “nuclear deterrence policy” and establish our basic policy.

196. Contribution to the international community and reform of the UN Security Council

We want to improve the decision-making and effectiveness of the UN Security Council as a country with the intention and ability to reflect the composition of the permanent members of the Security Council which should be more accurately reflecting the current international community. We want to play a major role in maintaining peace and security in the international community. We will continue to work toward an early realization of the “Security Council Reform” to enter the council as a permanent member.

197. Enhancement of ODA and support for developing countries

Official Development Assistance (ODA)⁵⁴ is an essential measure to realize diplomatic means. While striving for a strategic implementation of ODA, we aim to expand both the “quality” and “quantity” of ODA, based on Japan’s responsibility as a developed country, to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

In addition, we will continue to strengthen cooperation with the private economy and NGOs. We will resume JICA’s investment and promote ODA loans. We will also encourage the advancement of Japanese companies abroad as the primary task of diplomatic missions and we will do our utmost to provide support for companies like networking of providing information.

⁵³ In response to the terror attacks on September 11th and the retaliation of Afghanistan, we dispatched 32 maritime troops, supply ships and escort ships between 2001 and 2010.

⁵⁴ Official Development Assistance (ODA) is aid and investment by governments of developed industrial countries to developing countries for international contribution.

198. Enhancement of external dissemination

We will establish a mechanism to maintain smooth relationships with ODA receiving countries. We will deepen mutual exchanges with Islamic and African countries and will keep on playing our unique role.

We will strengthen Japan's soft power by promoting strategic dissemination, intellectual exchange and science and technology diplomacy while enhancing the export of our outstanding legal and health care system. At the same time, we intensively strengthen the communication on foreign policies, release information and strengthen interpersonal networks or think tanks.

199. Strengthened efforts on global issues

We will strengthen efforts on global issues like climate change, global warming, new types of influenzas, water and sanitation or food problems and will improve health systems.

200. Enhancement of resource diplomacy

We will focus on "resource diplomacy" and use diplomatic tools like ODA to diversify supply sources and strengthen relationships with major resource supplying countries. Particularly in Africa, we will steadily implement international commitments of doubling our ODA and private investment to demonstrate leadership on different issues such as economic growth, the establishment of human security and the protection of the environment.

201. Free Trade

Overcoming the current economic and financial crisis is an urgent issue for the international community and Japan. It is important to stop the deterioration of the economy, firmly oppose protectionism⁵⁵ and ensure the stability and recovery of the world economy.

In response to the economic and financial crisis, Japan will actively take domestic economic measures and will demonstrate international leadership in strengthening the financial foundation of international financial institutions and support Asia with ODA. We will also call on countries to avoid protectionism and we will continue to negotiate with the WTO Doha Round to settle economic partnership agreements and investment treaties. Regarding agricultural negotiations, we aim to establish rules that enable the coexistence of diverse agricultural activities in each country and a sustainable use of forestry and fishery resources.

202. Strengthening the diplomatic system

In the ever-changing international society, it is necessary to further strengthen a comprehensive diplomatic system to secure peace and prosperity while taking Japan's national interests into consideration. Therefore, our party has compiled the "10 Point Action Plan to Strengthen Comprehensive Diplomatic Capabilities 10" (nurturing human resources to become a cornerstone of diplomacy, realizing the 150 embassies systems, introducing medium-sized embassies, improving

⁵⁵ Protectionism is an idea and position to protect domestic industries by restricting imports and custom duties.

the diplomatic facilities abroad and securing local staff). We will also continue to protect Japanese nationals.

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203. Develop diplomatic lawmakers

We will develop diplomatic lawmakers to broaden and deepen the international relations of Japan.

204. Strengthening personnel and budget to adapt to a changing security environment

Japan's security environment has undergone significant changes, due to North Korea's nuclear tests and missile launches, the Chinese military buildup or the restructured Russian military. We will propose a new defense plan, which is reduced in scope due to paragraph 9 in our constitution, to verify the necessary and appropriate "quality" and "quantity" of personnel and budget to improve our defense capabilities. In particular, based on the fact that the satisfaction rate has been restricted to 90% due to the personnel cost reform and the shortage of "employees" in our units, we will review the "Administrative Reform Act" applied to the SDF personnel and will improve the respectful and appreciating treatment of the SDF personnel.

205. Make Japan a production base for future technology to maintain and strengthen defense technology

We will promote a drastic reform on the domestic defense industry including diversifying and privatizing the production to make Japan as a production base for this sector. In accordance with our national defense policy, we will promote voluntary technical research and development for new equipment especially regarding the Japan-US joint development and production.

We will establish a mechanism to determine weapons export permissions based on the principles of the United Nations resolution which prohibits exports to countries supporting terrorism, international conflict parties, banned countries and countries with insufficient export control. Weapons exports are subject to specific permission criteria called "guidelines for export control on weapons and related technology and goods" and we will strictly follow them.

206. Reducing the burden on residents living close to military bases

Based on the fact that various burdens are imposed on the residents living close to military bases, we will promote different measures, like the consolidation and reduction of US military personnel, in Okinawa to improve the living conditions for residents. In particular, we will take special efforts relevant for local governments who suffer from those bases.

207. Basic Security Law

We will establish a "Basic Security Law" based on the right for collective self-defense, pacifism, rule of law and civilian control. By doing so, we will position the SDF as the foundation for security, strengthen the importance of the SDF, establish a legal basis for the use of weapons and review already existing defense policies.

208. A strong Prime Minister for military intelligence

In order to strengthen the function of the Prime Minister concerning diplomacy and security, a “National Security Council” will be established in the Cabinet. We will strengthen the nation’s information gathering ability and analysis capability. We will improve the information security system and protect the public’s safety via accurate information.

209. New threats to the Japanese defense

To fortify our defense capability, we promote the deployment of a ballistic missile defense system with high responsiveness and effectiveness and measures against terrorism and guerilla fights. We will also strengthen countermeasures against NBS (nuclear, biological and chemical) weapons, new influenzas and cyber-attacks⁵⁶.

210. International Peace Cooperation Act

Special laws, like the “Supplementary Support Law or the Iraq Humanitarian Reconstruction Assistance Law but the “International Peace Cooperation Act”, did not enable the quick dispatching of the SDF abroad to contribute to global peace building. Based on the experiences and lessons learned from the activities of the international emergency relief teams, we will organize related laws to realize a more flexible and effective dispatching. While considering national interests and international cooperation, the Self-Defense Forces will be dispatched for the UN PKO or anti-piracy missions in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia.

211. Revision of the Self-Defense Forces Law to evacuate Japanese nationals overseas

We will revise the “Self-Defense Forces Law” to be able to evacuate Japanese nationals in foreign countries in case of emergencies.

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Creating the world’s leading “educational nation Japan”

Since educational rejuvenation is connected to the pride of Japan, we will provide children with world-class academic ability and a normative consciousness so that no student will fall behind. Against the educational policy of the Democratic Party by which unease spreads among people, since it is void of any ideals and entails a biased deviation of education, we will promote education to raise “human power” by “educational revitalization”.

212. Education combining global top-level academic abilities and normative consciousness

Based on the “Basic Education Law”, we aim to spend 5% of the public budget for education – as much as all other OECD countries – to ensure the “Educational Promotion Plan” and the “New Guidelines for the Course of Study”. We will restore the nationwide academic achievements and learning situation survey to investigate all problems of children and to improve the guidance of schools, faculties and staff. We will also reimplement lessons on Saturdays.

⁵⁶ Cyber Attack refers to terrorism conducted on networks.

We implement the public display of respect for our national flag and anthem at schools and promote education to nurture sovereign students who are the future of our country. We will not support extensive gender education or gender free education⁵⁷ as well as a biased historical education. We will establish a new course called “community/society” to promote moral and consumption education for citizens. Volunteering and internships will be compulsory at junior and senior high schools to cultivate social minds. We will promote experiential learning in the fields of agriculture, fishing by visiting mountains and rural areas.

213. New educational reforms to respond to a turbulent are

In order to become the world’s top level educational nation, it is necessary to provide free education, to introduce a new curriculum system for fifth and sixth grade elementary school students and to examine the philosophy of high schools, including compulsory education. We will examine the current six-three-three-four system and carry out the “Great Heisei school reform” corresponding to the new era.

We will implement “High School Graduation Exams” to ensure academic abilities. At the same time, we will revise the university entrance exams. For example, the entrance exam at the University of Tokyo shall be conducted on the premise of training human leaders. We will introduce a social system for people to reenter university to guarantee opportunities for career advancement.

214. Realize a society where education leads to possessing dreams and peace of mind

We will improve faculty and staff qualifications in order to provide high quality education and detailed guidance. To prevent regional disparities from occurring, we will consider compulsory education by trying to standardize the education system.

We will do our best to tackle issues such as the “obligation to safety”. We will realize an educational system with only 65.000 high school dropouts and 170.000 students not attending high schools. To enable children and students in need of public assistance to attend high schools, universities, vocational schools or other various schools with peace of mind, we will establish a new schooling support and scholarship⁵⁸ system, especially to cover the tuition of private school for low-income families. We will do our best to support the dreams of children who are motivated regardless of the economic situation of their families.

215. Correcting inequality between public and private schooling – enhancing subsidies

In consideration of the importance of both private and public education and while supporting the construction of private schools, we will fully realize the objectives of the “Private Schooling Funding Act” (maintenance and improvement of educational conditions and the economic situation of schools). We aim to eliminate disparities between the public and private sector by significantly expanding subsidies.

⁵⁷ Education that denies differences between men and women.

⁵⁸ Scholarships without the obligation to pay back the benefits.

216. Three “New Education Acts” to ensure political neutrality of education

Penalties are set up for the violation of the “Education Civil Service Law” to ensure political neutrality of faculties and staff unions (like the Nichiren group) and to prevent illegal activities such as election campaigning. The income and expenditure report of faculties and staff unions shall be obligatory and illegally active groups will be excluded as registered entities and from public funded resources specified by the “Local Public Service Act”. We will revise the law to enforce the “Law on Securing Political Neutrality of Education at Compulsory Education Schools” and oblige the Board of Education to conduct necessary surveys.

Furthermore, we thoroughly investigate violations of the political funds control law conducted by teachers and staff unions in Hokkaido, Yamanashi or Kanagawa and call for a national debate on political neutrality and the standardization of education.

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217. Enhance the quality of teachers and support hard-working teachers

We will certify excellent teachers, establish a clear salary system, build an educational system for teachers to concentrate on children and thoroughly support truly committed teachers. We eliminate the intervention of teacher and staff associations into faculty personnel affairs by giving the board of education this responsibility and thereby realize a balanced teacher placement.

To improve the quality of faculty staff and maintain as well as improve the educational standards, we will correct operational problems in the teacher license renewal system and design effective institutions. Otherwise the decline in the teaching abilities of faculties cannot be handled.

218. A safe and secure school environment

The DPJ government reduced the budget for earthquake resistance and maintenance of schools by one third to secure a source for free high school tuition fees, but our party strictly opposes this and decided to use government funds for this. We will promote measures for earthquake resistance and the maintenance of schools (since nearly 50% of the buildings are over 30 years old) and will implement the “PTA – Youth Educational Organization Aid Act” as a mutual aid system. We will continue to work on safe and secure schooling facilities.

219. Improving free early childhood education

Early childhood education is important to cultivate the formation of individual personalities. We guarantee high quality education for all children and will implement free education for children from 3 years to elementary schools in private kindergartens, nursery schools and certified kindergartens.

To respond flexibly to a diversifying education and the need for child care before preschool, we will enrich the educational functions of kindergartens, nursery schools and certified kindergartens.

220. Improve reading skills by Japanese language education

The Japanese language is the foundation of learning all other subjects. It is necessary to further improve Japanese language education in elementary, junior high and high schools to improve thinking abilities, judgement, verbal expression, reading comprehension and to develop knowledge

alongside other skills. Therefore, we improved Japanese language classes into “lectures to nurture children’s language skills” based on the principle “listen → think → learn” recommended by the OECD/PISA survey.

221. Practicing foreign languages by an improved foreign languages education

The enhancement of teaching foreign languages is already formulated in the “Basic Educational Promotion Act” and the “New Guidelines for Course of Study” will be fully implemented by elementary schools in FY2011 and middle schools in FY2012. As a result of the conference on “business classification”, the “Comprehensive English Language Education Reform” was abolished and the budget was drastically reduced by 74,3% in comparison to the previous year.

However, “English textbooks” are used especially in towns and villages where no foreign language teaching assistant (ALT) are located and it is said that “foreign language activities cannot be implemented in FY2011”. Our party will continue to enhance foreign language education via foreign language activities.

222. Significant enhancement of science and talent education

In order to increase the number of children who like science and mathematics which are core subjects, we will greatly enhance mathematics education by including external human resources into the Faculty of Science and Engineering and will include experimental classes while also improving the leadership skills of math teaching personnel. Even if the “Project to Support the Placement of Science Personnel” was abolished, our party will continue to support this project to improve faculties.

We will strengthen our talent education to cultivate superior qualities and children with the opportunity to become world leader. In addition to further expanding “Super Science High Schools”⁵⁹, we promote a significant increase in the number of students participating in the International Science Olympics and expand international exchange opportunities.

223. Japanese education that enables true friendship with foreigners

Even if children of foreigners attend public schools, there are indications that some do not since they do not understand the Japanese language. We will establish a detailed admission system according to language abilities and employ Japanese instructors. The system to teach Japanese to foreign adults is not well developed. To secure a sufficient quality and quantity of Japanese language education for foreigners, it is necessary to expand opportunities to learn Japanese and to continue the “Japanese language education project for foreigners”. We will implement and enrich this system. Our party opposes to simply give money to foreigners like the Democratic Party is prone to do, but we will also create an environment that can foster true friendship with foreigners.

⁵⁹ A system of designated schools that emphasize science, technology and mathematics implemented by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

224. Special education that cherishes everyone's individual strength

We will enhance the pluralization of school nurses and teachers, strengthen the function of educational special support coordinator⁶⁰ and their placement at high schools, examine the actual situation of disabled children, study the usage of technology, like ICT, as teaching material, implement a high school entrance exam considering disabled students, improve the course guidance at middle and high schools, give practical guidance in cooperation with special support schools and the industry, promote the employment of disabled people and promote special support education at affiliated schools and national universities to promote appropriate education for disabled children.

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225. Education with diverse options

In addition to ordinary high schools, we will establish special high schools for vocational education to diversify options and expertise without overwhelming students.

Based on the accomplishments of vocational schools, we will establish higher education institutions specialized in vocational education based on the "School Education Law". We will fully recognize the significance of various vocational schools and aim to fill the gap to other school groups and aim to provide financial and public support to enhance their educational function.

226. Promotion of the higher education and university policy

By introducing a private enterprise style management to the University of Tokyo, Kyoto University and others and make them "super universities", we aim to include five private schools in the 30 world's best school ranking and three colleges and universities in the 10 world's best university ranking. Enrollment at universities will be in September to meet the international standard and three months after high school graduation to give time to gather social experience in a volunteer activity period.

We will promote fair higher education and university promotion measures like the examination of the "Higher Education Agency". Approximately 80% of the university's income is private student payment so the financial burden on students is heavy. Therefore, we will reconsider the expenditure scheme of scholarships for public and private universities and restructure the mechanism of fiscal expenditures. We promote active regional cooperation between universities, regional/local societies and the industry.

227. Securing fundamental budgets for universities

Universities with diverse human resources conducting education activities and research are the foundation of science. But in recent years, the expenses to support stable education and research (national university corporation subsidies for administrative expenses, facility maintenance expenses and subsidies for private schools) are declining. By this trend, a great deal of difficulties arises in

⁶⁰ An educational special support coordinator is a key person at each school who coordinates people and institutions involved in educational support. The coordinator is responsible for the communication with related institutions like welfare or medical institutions and the consultation of schools to parents. It is required to nominate a coordinator at all schools for blind or deaf children at nursing, elementary of junior high schools.

maintaining the number of faculty and management members in operational faculties. Therefore, we will secure those fundamental expenses to strengthen science in our country.

228. Reform of graduate schools

Regarding graduate schools, we promote close cooperation with public research institutions and other organization engaged in human resource development and we will strengthen intensive human resource development at graduate schools, promote active human resource training by various options and will strengthen the education and research conducted at graduate schools.

We will improve the support for universities to promote the formation of world leading graduate schools, to conduct high quality education and research at universities and to conduct world-class education and research in specialized fields. To eliminate redundant educational research, we will promote the reform of academic institutions divided by academic disciplines.

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229. Promotion and Realization of the Okinawa Science and Technology Graduate University

Based on the severe economic and social conditions, we aim to build an independent economy following the Okinawa Promotion Plan. Taking advantage of Okinawa's attractiveness and superiority, we will promote initiatives that encompass the further promotion of various industries such as tourism, information or telecommunication, while also developing human resources and creating employment. We will also promote reactivating remote islands and intensified social capital development. In addition, we are steadily preparing the opening of the "Okinawa Science and Technology Graduate School" in FY2012 to establish the world's highest level of educational research. This will contribute to the independent development of Okinawa and contribute to science and technology worldwide.

230. Support for doctoral students and young researchers

We will expand subsidies for admission fees and tuition expenses by creating new scholarships, enhance teaching assistants, expand economic support for doctoral students and generally improve the environment for all students to enable them to learn with confidence. We aim to increase the number of positions offered to young researchers and diversify their career paths to let them become active professionals involved in research in industrial sectors or intellectual property management. We will support opportunities for public research institutions to develop specialized human resources and target postdoctoral fellows and expand employment opportunities.

We will create a new research funding system by which young researchers can devote themselves to independent research and their "specialized projects".

231. The "300.000 international students plan": promoting international exchange students and researchers

By aiming to realize the "300.000 international students plan" in 2020, we will acquire excellent international students while paying attention to each country, region and field.

It is often pointed out that Japanese students and young researchers are domestically oriented. But in order to strengthen the training of superior human resources actively participating in the world, we will expand opportunities for university and high school students to study abroad. We will promote the obligation of researchers to go abroad and greatly expand their opportunities to do so. To develop world-class educational research, it is indispensable to accept excellent researchers from overseas and work on collaborative research while also enhancing scholarships and improve the system of host institutions.

232. Establishing the “Sports Act” to realize a “sports nation”

We see sport as a national strategy and therefore will establish the “Sports Act” as well as a sports agency and ministry for sports.

In order to activate Japanese athletes for the Olympic Games, we will promote various measures to improve international competitiveness and work on the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games campaign. Additionally, we will do our utmost to succeed in the 2019 Rugby World Cup and will hold the 2022 Soccer World Cup.

We will promote efforts to improve the physical fitness of children by enhancing physical education and the exercise departments at schools to achieve national strength and athletic abilities. We will promote various kinds of sports by projects such as the National Sports Competition Festival, Regional Sports Clubs or the Teacher Training Project and promote sport as part of the citizen’s lifestyle.

233. Enhancing the sports promotion system

To secure more financial support for sports, we will consider making designated donations with tax resources. To realize lifelong sports promotion and improve competitive skills, we aim to further enhance and revitalize sports related organizations and will try to secure human and financial resources to guarantee second career paths for athletes after retirement.

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Since golf was established as a national lifelong sport, we will consider using taxes for golf courses.

234. Creating a proud “cultural and artistic country”

In order to disseminate Japanese culture strategically abroad, we will promote Japanese media art brands, such as animation, and improve the conditions for producing departments. We will prioritize cultural exchange of fine arts and open overseas Japanese language education facilities in 100 places. To promote the release of foreign art in our country, we will establish the “Act on the Public Promotion of Foreign Art”.

We will support “cultural art creating cities” throughout our country where the creation of creative cultural arts can lead to the revitalization of industries and regions. Also, during educational periods, all children will be able to appreciate and experience high quality cultural art (traditional or contemporary culture).

235. Support cultural and artistic activities to let future generation inherit cultural assets

We will provide more support for cultural and arts organization to nurture professional personnel and motivate their activities.

We will consider tax incentives to foster cultural donation. In Tokyo, traditional performing arts are highly appreciated and managed but not in the Kansai region. Therefore, we will consider establishing an institution for “National Traditional Performing Arts” (provisional name) in Kansai (Osaka). We will aim to establish the “Theater Law” to develop experts of performing arts and support organizations, theaters and music halls.

We will promote disaster prevention measures to protect cultural buildings from earthquakes or fires. We will support the creation of video recording (digital data) to let future generations inherit valuable folk culture properties.

236. Creating a “place” for the world’s cultures to shine and interact – Japan as a cultural platform

Throughout our history, we have constantly developed new cultural trends by incorporating other cultures and fusing those with our culture. Using this power of the Japanese culture, we will create a “place to encourage people to cultivate a country with an open culture” and develop a “place” where cultures from all over the world can interact. We will promote measures to make “Japan a cultural platform”.

237. Developing a nation “driven by science, technology and innovation”

We aim to implement the “4th Science and Technology Plan” to let the budget for research and developmental investment exceed 25 trillion yen in order to create a nation “driven by science, technology and innovation”.

To constantly create world leading assets of knowledge, it is essential to further promote research conducted by creative researchers who receive substantial subsidies. We will expand the diversity and continuity of research results generated by subsidies for scientific research and will examine competitive funds to enable creative research projects and link those to the creation of new intellectual assets and innovations. At the same time, we will provide 30% of the expenses for all competitive funds.

238. Institutional reform for innovations

We strongly promote reforms on regulations and social systems that are the cornerstone of innovations such as the tax system reform (including the R&D tax system or angel tax system reform), systematic reforms to enhance the support for venture businesses or the reform of the intellectual property system. As each country aims to acquire international standards as soon as possible, we will implement strategic international standardization of activities by public-private partnerships, especially in cooperation with other Asian countries.

We will strengthen our overseas export and the development of public private partnerships cooperation including Japan's integral system of construction, human resource development or excellent technology like water systems and core infrastructural facilities like nuclear power plants.

239. Formation of a worldwide R&D base

To create innovations, it is necessary to build a "place" where universities, public research institutes and industries gather and collaborate on R&D. In particular, while flexibly using regional resources, we will form the world's most advanced research and development based on "competition" and "cooperation" that responds to Japan's strengths on innovations.

For Japan to gain the world's "brains", it is essential to establish a base for an international research network that attracts excellent researchers not only from Japan but also overseas. We will drastically strengthen the support for universities and public research institutes to conduct superior research beyond worldwide standards and substantially expand our research base (WPI).

240. Strengthen international activities in the fields of science and technology

To further improve the level of science and technology in our country and actively contribute to resolving serious problems occurring on a global scale, such as natural disasters or infectious diseases, we will further strengthen our collaboration and cooperation with other countries. We will greatly enhance science and technology diplomacy to enable cooperation in advanced fields via ODA.

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Additionally, we will promote cooperation between domestic and overseas universities conducting excellent education and research and we will also promote the active use of education and research for diplomatic means.

Furthermore, in addition to establishing a system to trace and analyze overseas trends, we will strengthen the management of technologies related to security. On the other hand, we will actively use our technology to contribute to the international nuclear nonproliferation regime.

241. Strategic space policy to improve organizations and structures

The strategic space policy will enable a structure to allocate resources for priority projects promoting the use for security or industries. In accordance with the medium and long-term space policy, we will establish a department at the Cabinet Office responsible for the implementation of a space program. Aside from the already established JAXA⁶¹, the policy will reorganize institutions and agencies to implement new space projects.

242. Constructing a social infrastructure by the G space project (geospatial information)

The G space project (geospatial information) which integrates satellite technology and electronic maps will provide information on territory, waters and the airspace. We will strive to ensure a social

⁶¹ Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) is a research and developmental agency responsible for Japan's aerospace development policy. It is independent but under administrative corporation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. In 2003, the three aerospace institutions of Japan, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Space, Science and Technology, the Aerospace Technology Institute and the National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA) consolidated and launched the JAXA.

infrastructure based on geospatial information and disseminating that information to Japan's diplomacy, economy and defense security.

243. Constructing a space system to improve Japan's diplomacy and defense

We will use economic cooperation tools such as technical cooperation or ODA as well as the compact space system to strengthen Japan's businesses in accordance with the need of emerging countries. We will promote the use of earth observation systems and telecommunication broadcasting in emerging countries.

We will accelerate the development necessary for high resolution and frequency satellites as well as early warning satellites used by the SDF for Japan's missile defense system, communication, weather observation and reconnaissance. We will promote the space system as a dual use project to maintain and improve a transportation system and a ground system to include the maintenance of a new technological base.

Regaining confidence in politics and administration

We will reduce the number of Diet members by 30% and eradicate retiring high-ranking government official taking a lucrative job in private corporations. We will establish and realize true "political leadership".

244. Significant reduction of the number of Diet members

The House of Representatives and the House of Councilors will be reduced by 10% from 722 to 650 members in three years and the number of Diet members will be reduced by 30% to 500.

245. Considering the current state of the bicameral system

Based on the amendment of the Constitution, we will examine the adequate design of the bicameral system in our country.

246. Strengthen political responsibility of officials and ensuring the transparency of political funds

We will strengthen politicians' responsibility so that they will not be able to escape from penalties and will not take illegal actions.

We will further secure the transparency of political funds. Also, in order to receive broad support from the people, we will establish a system facilitating personal donation and tax incentives.

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We will try to improve the transparency of political party institutions, magazine's revenues, paper subscription fees, advertisement fees or political funds. We will also promote the transparency of labor union's political activities.

247. Streamlining the National Assembly Secretariat

As part of the reform of the National Assembly Secretariat, we will consider organizational reforms, such as restructured departments, selling facilities and assets of the Diet, to eliminate wasteful handling and to realize efficiency and slimness.

255. Vitalization of the regional economy by the IT transition

We will integrate and centralize the business system of indirect departments such as personnel, salary and accounting in the central government agency and will promote regional relocation by ICT and private sector consignment. By improving the efficiency of the operation system and the relocation of local governments, we will reduce labor costs while promoting the regional ICT industry.

The Central Government Office will take the initiative in realizing the relocation of local governments which will encourage the transfer of businesses and private enterprises currently concentrated around Tokyo to rural areas. At the same time, by introducing the *Doshu* system, we will create multipolar economic zones and revitalize local economies.

256. Electronic national administration

Through the introduction of cloud technologies⁶⁴, citizens can acquire and manage information such as pension records themselves and have easy access to administrative services 24 hours. The national and local government will promote efforts to make progress in online use and reduce unnecessary administrative costs.

257. Independent Administrative Institution Reform

Through the “rationalization plan of independent administrative corporation” by the Democratic Party of Japan, it was decided to abolish privatization, revise administrative projects, review salary levels and the unilateral invitation of officials to the Cabinet was enabled. We strive to achieve comprehensive reforms such as strict regulations as well as reemployment restrictions for executives and employees to eliminate further squandering and to improve efficiency and transparency.

258. A new system by public interest corporations

Regarding the new public benefit corporation system that began in December 2008, we will continue to enable a smooth transition in the next five years. In addition, we will abolish the consignment to public interest corporations and will do so only in essential business sectors and independent administrative agency, pursuing lower costs and high standards.

259. Central government ministry reform

We will examine whether the desired functions and effects of the reorganization of government ministries from 2001 are acquired and we will seek further effective administrative reorganizations. Based on this evaluation, we will move from a temporary reform to a whole and constant reform by (1) regulatory reforms to revitalize the private sector (2) the revitalization of provincial decentralization (3) administrative reforms to make the government more efficient and flexible. We will establish the “Administrative Reform Agency” that gathers information on administrative reform functions and effects.

⁶⁴ Cloud computing is an internet- and computer-based network. People can use computer programs as a service via this network.

