Overview of the Basic Plan Draft for the New System of Children and Childcare

June 29, 2010
Decided by Conference on Measures for Society with a Declining Birthrate

[Purpose] Creation of society with the new child and childcare system as follows

- ◆ Society that secures a high-quality environment for all children and that takes good care of them
- Society that people's hope for having children, childcare and work can realize
- Society that supports the work-life balance to have a fulfilled life
- Society that creates new jobs and is vigorous with promotion of women's participation in the labour force

[Policy] Establishing the system under the following policies

- Child and childcare support by the entire society
- High-quality and necessary service provision for all children and their families on the basis of users-centered concept (users: children and their families)
- Realization of service to respond to diverse needs of residents premised on the sovereignty of local governments
- ◆ Integration of the government's promotion systems

[What is the new system] Realization of the new system as follows

- Integration of the government's promotion systems and resources
- Cost sharing by the entire society (the national and local governments, employers, individuals)
- Municipalities-centered (cities, towns and villages)
- Integration of kindergartens and childcare centers
- Provision of various childcare services
- Realization of the Work-Life Balance
- Presentation of the bill to the 2011 ordinary Diet session aiming at enforcement in FY 2013
- * A phased implementation aiming at enforcement in FY 2013, securing permanent resources
- Forward implementation of measures such as resolution of the problem of wait-listed children for entering a childcare center and unified provision of cash/in-kind benefits, which can be implemented as from FY 2011
- Co-operation with the Growth Strategy Meeting, etc.
- For the concrete planning of the system including the Child and Childcare Comprehensive Grant (tentative name), opinions of local governments which are responsible for implementation of the system shall be reflexed for their smooth operation, and be coordinated with the lump-sum benefit system, which is being planned in the strategy meeting for the sovereignty of local governments, and the results of discussions between the national and local governments

