

April 3, 2015

**Statement by Yasuchika Hasegawa, Chairman of Keizai Doyukai  
On the Cabinet Approval of “Advanced Professionals System”**

1. Today, the Cabinet approved a draft to amend the Labor Standard Act focusing on the introduction of “Advanced Professionals System.” We appreciate the approval as a first step toward the realization of the world’s top-level employment environment and working style.
2. It is inevitable to establish a new system that enables a working style of performance-based evaluation rather than that of work-time-based. Such a system will lead to an environment where various human resources can find ways to success through work-life balance in place and also, will develop professional human resources with world-class talent. We request an early enactment and enforcement of the bill.
3. On the other hand, business managers must commit themselves to the rectification of the long working hours from the perspectives of productivity improvement and added value enhancement. The health management of workers is another area of further attention to be paid.
4. Furthermore, we hope progress in a comprehensive working style and the labor market reform that solve challenges such as more opportunities for female workers to exercise their potential, dissemination/expansion of diverse full-time employees, opportunities for young/senior and other workers to exhibit their capabilities, and unitization of high-level non-Japanese human resources.