

October 2, 2018

**Statement by Yoshimitsu Kobayashi, Chairman of Keizai Doyukai
on Fourth Reshuffle of Abe Cabinet**

1. The fourth Abe Cabinet is inaugurated today. The prime minister has appointed a dozen first-time ministers, while retaining key ministers. The coming three years, Prime Minister Abe's final term as a leader of Liberal Democratic Party, will determine Japan's future inside and outside the country and have significant importance. We request the new Cabinet to face the public diligently and run the administration with a sincere effort.
2. The importance of fiscal consolidation cannot be overemphasized and above all, there is a pressing need for social security reform. Meanwhile, challenges are mounting to this country prone to natural disasters before realizing a sustainable society. Reinforcement of national resilience and environmental/energy issues are examples of those. We hope that the government will address painful and challenging reform without hesitation, removing the concerns of the future generations.
3. Amid the escalating national interest first policy worldwide and the burgeoning data dictatorship, Japan's economy and social system are now facing the time of paradigm shift. We expect the government to initiate a genuine growth strategy based on discussions over how to achieve Japan's competitive advantage from global perspectives and foster human resources capable of carrying it out.

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