

**Statement by Kengo Sakurada, Chairman of Keizai Doyukai
on Result of Upper House Election**

1. The ruling coalition is poised to win more than half contested seats at the 26th Upper House regular election voted and counted today. We understand that public opinion in the voting has preferred political stability, amid the turbulence in the economic situation and global environment. We welcome the result.
2. The attack on former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe just two days ago was a material and despicable act of insulting democracy. Under its considerable shock, however, the voting was conducted calmly and the voters showed their will. It is a significant outcome in Japan, where democracy takes hold.
3. The former prime minister's long desire was Japan's robust economic growth driven by promotion of investment and innovation, as well as enhancement of Japan's international status through the deployment of diplomacy that takes a panoramic perspective of the world. Both challenges remain important now, and their pressing situations have been even more intensified. We request Prime Minister Kishida to strive for a country that embodies "new capitalism," which we are proud of in the world. Meanwhile, we, business leaders, will be determined and reaffirm that the private sector plays a key role in its endeavor.

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