

## **PART 1**

# **THE FIRST YEAR OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH, LABOUR AND WELFARE REFORM**

## **～CHANGING “THE BUREAUCRATIC CULTURE”～**

### **Introduction**

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is the mainstay of the Administration that protects the people's lives, and the people highly rely on it.

However, the people have lost confidence in the Ministry because of the issues such as the pension record problem and the drug-induced hepatitis problem.

Social Security for which the Ministry is responsible is directly related to the people's living and it does not work without mutual reliance between the people and the administration in charge.

We deeply regret and sincerely apologize for destroying the foundation of the reliance because of the problems that have disappointed the people.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare must review the problems arisen until now, and make the system fully reliable by revising and improving it so that the Ministry can promote a better understanding of its considerable expenditure to cope with the increase of pension, medical and long-term care benefits to provide in the Japan's aging society, the declining birthrate and poverty, and to take measures against employment issues in the fluctuation of the economy.

Therefore, we have declared “Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Reliable Organization That Sees from the Same Standpoint of the People” as our theme of “Annual Health, Labour and Welfare Report 2009 - 2010” ,and the subject of the Part 1 is “The First Year of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Reform ～Changing “The Bureaucratic Culture”～ ,

In the Chapter 1of the Part 1, we take up the issues of the former Social Insurance Agency and drug-induced hepatitis, and discuss what we should have done for them.

The Chapter 2 introduces our efforts to establish the administrative system that will be able to cut the red tape, stop wasting and share the same standpoint with the people and our approach to the improvement of the pension, social insurance, pharmaceuticals and health administration based on the review of the abovementioned issues.