

Chapter 6 Toward Realization

1 Early normalization of citizens' lives and restoration of urban infrastructures

We will work more seriously on the normalization of people's lives and do our utmost to achieve an early restoration of urban infrastructures and on this we are keenly proceeding. The restoration must develop smoothly into full-fledged restoration.

2 Effective and efficient promotion of restoration projects

Always examining the priority of projects and measures and fully listening to the voices of people, we have to steadily implement those of the greatest urgency and ripple effects first of all and proceed with restoration effectively and efficiently.

3 Proceeding with improvement of administrative and fiscal organizations

We will review existing projects in terms of changes in the needs of citizens and cost-effectiveness to proceed with restoration projects amid tight fiscal conditions. We will set about examining how functional systems of implementation should go as soon as possible, while considering comprehensive administrative development and strengthening and developing functions of ward offices connected directly with the demands of citizens

4 Strong assistance from the central government and regional cooperation

Damage caused by the quake was so serious that there is a limit to what can be done by the municipal government alone. The restoration of Kobe is a matter of great urgency from a national standpoint because the city assumes an important status in the Kansai region and there is a growing demand for more disaster-resistant areas throughout Japan. We, therefore, ask the central government for stronger support. We have to work on the restoration of the whole region in cooperation with neighboring prefectures and municipalities

5 Deregulation and positive utilization of private-sector vitality

Positive utilization of private-sector vitality is indispensable to smooth restoration. For Kobe to be restored as a city worthy of the 21st century, deregulation should go on with incentives to encourage vigorous activities of the private sector and support from the prefectural and the national governments

6 Formation of a rich society of citizens by working together

Each citizen plays a vital role in restoration. We have to promote the formation of a rich society of citizens through city planning joined by citizens, businesses and the city government. Even though restoration is far from completion and is difficult, every citizen and organization engaging in restoration must sympathize with each other, work out ideas, sweat, and create a city that we can proudly show to the world