

Lully Miura joined the PM's advisory board on "Future Investment Strategy" from July 2020. The Prime Minister's office decided to expand the advisory board members due to the covid-19 crisis, which necessitates a combined approach on the various policy fields.

The focus of this board would be to develop a desirable strategy for economic and social reforms during and after the covid-19 crisis. The board will present policy recommendations to the Prime Minister by the end of this year.

The new members are;

**Dr. Takao Ohki**, MD PhD, Professor, Jikei University School of medicine, Department of Surgery. Special advisor to the dean of Jikei University hospital on covid-19.

**Dr. Nobuhiko Okabe**, MD PhD, Director General, Kawasaki City Institute for Public Health.

**Dr. Shigeru Omi**, MD PhD, President of the Japan Community Health Care Organization.

**Mr. Rikio Kozu**, President, Japanese trade union consolidation (JTUC-RENGO)

**Mr. Takeshi Niinami**, CEO, Suntory Holdings Ltd.

**Dr. Lully Miura**, PhD, President, Yamaneko Research Institute, Inc.

**Ms. Haruka Mera**, CEO, READYFOR Inc.

**Dr. Takaji Wakita**, MD PhD, Director-General, National Institute of Infectious Diseases.

New members include four medical professionals, one business executive of a listed company, one entrepreneur, one scholar and think-tank representative (Miura). Two out of the eight new members are women, with a total of four now serving out of a total of 18 board members.

The existing members are as follows;

**Mr. Yasufumi Kanemaru**, Chairman and President, Group CEO, Future Corporation.

**Dr. Makoto Gonogami**, PhD, President, the University of Tokyo

**Mr. Kengo Sakurada**, Group CEO, Director, President and Representative Executive Officer, SOMPO Holdings. Chairman, Japan Association of Corporate Executive (Keizai Doyukai).

**Mr. Toshiyuki Shiga**, CEO, INCJ Inc.

**Dr. Heizo Takenaka**, PhD, Professor, Toyo University, Department of Global Innovation Studies. Honorary Professor, Keio University.

**Mr. Hiroaki Nakanishi**, Chairman, The Japan Business Federation (Keidanren)

**Ms. Tomoko Namba**, Founder & Executive Chairman, DeNA Co., Ltd.

Chairman of each structural reform group

**Dr. Yoshimitsu Kobayashi**, PhD, Chairman, Member of the Board, Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings Corporation.

**Dr. Yuri Okina**, PhD, Chairperson, The Japan Research Institute, Limited.

**Mr. Akio Mimura**, Chairman of Japan Chamber of Commerce of Industry (JCCI).

*Miura's statement at the July 30 board is as follows.*

Prime Minister, Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen. I am Lully Miura, and it is my honor to join the board.

Today, I would like make two points, from the perspective of bolstering the economy while appropriately assessing the risk of covid-19.

First, we have to set the right goals to tackle the covid-19 crisis. People cannot escape disease, nor can society escape risks. The goal should be to avoid situations where we are forced to take unnecessary risk due to the collapse of the medical system. The goal should not be a zero-risk approach to the infection itself. Policy responses should not be based on the number of people infected, but should be measured by the expansion and flexibility of medical resources. Secondly, we have to assess and make transparent economic and social risks. There is an unfortunate discourse when weighing the epidemiological and economic risks of covid-19, that one is balancing life vs. money, but this is a clear mistake. The economy supports people's lives and livelihoods; thus the comparison is life vs. life. We can now reasonably predict the number of bankruptcies, unemployment rates, and the suicides associated with economic stagnation. These numbers must be made transparent to the public as decisions are made. It has also become apparent that the burden of remote work is distributed unevenly on part of the population; namely on women and children. The Economic and social risks associated with counter-covid-19 measures should not be obscured and we must not create a new "lost generation". We experienced the lost decades after the burst of the bubble economy, and those "lost" generations suffered, taking all the social and economic risks which, they were not responsible for. We should never allow such a thing to happening again.

There are three points to keep in mind in the post-covid-19 era. The first is to accelerate the online transition to all aspects of society. Since the collapse of the bubble economy, Japan's productivity has been stagnant due to an overwhelming under- investment in IT compared with other advanced countries. From the user's point of view, measures should be taken across ministries and agencies and across national and local governments to enable this transition. Let's make it something of the past that you have to handwrite your name and address with stamps so many times during procedures at a government office. Better yet, let's make physical visits to the government office a thing of the past. Let us promote the dissemination and use of "My Number". Regulations that have prevented to take things online in the medical

and educational fields should also be reviewed on a zero basis.

Second, recovery from the covid-19 must be green. The economic recovery should focus on sustainability. With regard to the medium- and long-term energy mix, we should consider realistic prospects for restarting nuclear power plants., the removal of obstacles to the spread of renewable energy, and a timeline for sun-setting the use of fossil fuels with high environmental costs.

The third is to clarify once again the perspective Japan's competitive advantage in the 21 century. We must face the fact that Japan's prosperity is built on a fragile base, with 60% of its food, 90% of its energy, and 100% of its offensive security capability depended on foreign countries. Japan has neither the option of seclusion nor the luxury becomes inward looking. Lifestyle industries, such as tourism, food, and apparel, which have been hit the hardest by covid-19 crisis, are the key industries of a mature economy and of the future. It is important to create a trend to re-open Japan as quickly as possible, by reassessing covid-19 risks in accordance to other risks in society.