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Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICADV)
“Hand in hand with a more dynamic Africa”

[TICADV]

On 1-3 June at Yokohama, Japan will host TICADV. This is a summit meeting between Japan and African countries organized every five years. TICADV was attended by 41 heads of state from Africa. At TICADV, President Zuma is expected to attend along with other African leaders.

The basic theme of TICADV is “transformation for quality of growth”. In order to promote economic growth whose benefits will be more widely, equitably and sustainably shared, more investments in such areas as education, health, infrastructure and agriculture are required. In the efforts to achieve quality growth, public-private partnership, human security and empowerment of women and youth are important. In addition, “Peace and Stability” are prerequisites for growth in Africa. At TICADV, the Yokohama Action Plan is expected to feature concrete actions in all these areas.

At TICADV, Japan plans to announce several initiatives for the Southern African region relating to economic corridor development, industry skills development, and capacity development of development finance institutions. Japan and South Africa will work together to promote these initiatives.

[Japan-South African economic relations]

In terms of Japan-South Africa economic relations, in 2012 Japan was South Africa’s third largest export destination and the fifth largest source of imports. Japanese direct investment to South Africa has been steadily increasing in recent years, amounting to nearly 20 billion rands (stock) in 2010. Japanese companies generate about 150,000 jobs in the country. What is more, companies such as Toyota and Nissan contribute significantly to raising the capacity of local industries. Japanese companies are also involved in mining beneficiation. With the biennial Japan-South Africa Business Forum planned to take place during TICADV, it will be an important occasion to further promote Japanese business activities in South Africa.

[Brief history of TICAD]

In 1993 Japan initiated the TICAD process. Since then Japan has hosted TICAD summit meetings every five years. It was successful in its achieving its original aims, namely, raising global awareness of Africa when international interest in the continent was declining after the end of the Cold War. TICAD is a multilateral forum co-organized by Japan, the United Nations, UNDP, the World Bank, and recently joined by the African Union Commission (AUC). It is an open and inclusive process with a follow-up mechanism of annual ministerial meetings and other meetings.

[Japan's contribution to peace and stability in Africa]

TICAD attaches importance to peace and stability as the foundations of development. As the consolidation of peace requires seamless and continuous support to make it irreversible, Japan's assistance covers conflict prevention, humanitarian assistance, reconstruction assistance, restoration and maintenance of security, and promotion of good governance. During the TICAD V Ministerial Preparatory Meeting held in Addis Ababa on March 16-17, Mr. Fumio Kishida, Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, announced Japan's additional commitment to provide assistance in these areas to the amount of about US\$550 million. Included in this package is US\$120 million for humanitarian assistance, support in the areas of security and governance in the Sub-Saharan region, as well as emergency grant aid of US\$ 6 million extended to the UN trust fund for AFISMA (African-led International Support Mission to Mali). Japan's other contributions include the dispatch of Japan Self Defence Force to UNMISS (United Nations Mission to South Sudan) and the deployment of Maritime-Self Defense Force for Anti-Piracy Operations off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden.

[Japan's contribution to African Development]

Despite the global financial crisis and damages of the Great East Japan Earthquake, Japan is set to achieve all the pledges it made at TICAD IV in 2008, namely, to double its ODA to Africa by 2012 annually, to provide ODA loan up to US\$4 billion in five years, and to double direct investment to Africa to US\$3.4 billion. Japan is the largest bilateral donor in

infrastructure in Africa, providing assistance of 41.6 billion yen (equivalent to about 4.16 billion rands) in 2008-2011 for transport, energy, and water.

[Japan's cooperation to South Africa]

Since 2007, Japan has provided infrastructure and trade finance amounting to US\$ 1.3 billion which have been utilized for power distribution and transmission, the expansion of Durban port among others. Japan's ODA to South Africa since 1994 till 2012 amounted to US\$ 430 million, and Japan dispatched 77 volunteers and 992 experts, sent 1,273 South Africans to Japan for technical training, built more than 530 schools, and supported more than 560 community projects all over South Africa. Japan's support covers areas such as math and science education, vocational training, supporting vulnerables especially people with disabilities.