



Press release

September 18, 2007 – There is a need for citizens in Africa and Japan to work closely together and input into the process of achieving human security and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. Therefore, **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) organized an “Africa-Asia NGO Network Workshop” in Kenya on September 17th and 18th 2007 at Silver Springs Hotel.**

The Nairobi workshop provided a platform to;

- Support the creation of an Africa-Asian NGO network
- Strengthen advocacy efforts of African civil society towards TICAD IV
- Build and strengthen a NGO-JICA network for future formulation of partnership projects in the Africa region
- Promote TICAD IV to be held between May 28th – 30th, 2008

The outcome of the two day meeting was first and foremost, the creation of an Africa-Asia Civil Society Network. The network aims to be a platform to promote exchange of knowledge, expertise, and experiences across countries and regions; to facilitate collaboration and learning for development.

During the last two days **85 representatives of civil society from across Africa and Asia** have exchanged notes on sustainable human development and in particular, economic growth and investment, human security and environment and climate change.

The outputs are draft documents incorporating the voices of civil society for TICAD.

Please see the attached workshop statements

- Joint Solidarity Statement by Asian and African CSOs to our Governments, Development Partners and the International Community, September 18th, 2007
- African Civil Society Communiqué to Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and TICAD Civil Society Forum (TCSF), Government of Japan and the G8, September 17th and 18th 2007 at Silver Springs Hotel, Nairobi Kenya

These voices will be shared with the civil society in Japan in a follow-up meeting to be held in Japan in October 24th – 26th, 2007.

The Tokyo workshop is scheduled for **October 24th, 25th and 26th 2007** at JICA Global Plaza in Hiroo. The purpose is to strengthen the network of NGOs in Africa and Asia including Japan.

The Tokyo workshop will provide a platform to;

- Share the results of the Nairobi workshop and incorporate the ideas of Japanese NGOs on networking and partnership with Africa
- Provide an opportunity for African NGOs to interact with Japanese civil society
- Feedback to Africa through videoconferencing the results of the Tokyo workshop
- Prepare a collective opinion of NGOs in Africa and Asia on Japanese including JICA's assistance to Africa and towards the 2008 TICAD IV to be held in Japan

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA): <http://www.jica.go.jp/english/index.html>

Workshop Secretariat: TICAD Civil Society Forum (TCSF), Japan <http://www.ticad-csf.net/eng/index.htm>

c/o Institute of Asia Pacific Studies, Waseda University Rm 613-6, 7F Soudai nishiwaseda Bldg, Nishiwaseda, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 169-0051

Tel/Fax: +81-3-5286-8261 aaworkshop@yahoogroups.jp