

DRAFT YOKOHAMA DECLARATION TOWARDS A VIBRANT AFRICA

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The heads of State and Government, and delegations of Japan and 50 African countries, heads of multilateral organizations, together with the representatives of (x) other countries, (x) international and regional organizations from both Africa and Asia, met in Yokohama, Japan from 28 to 30 May, 2008, for the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development – TICAD IV.

1.2 The Conference took place against the backdrop of a rapidly-changing Africa determined to take responsibility for and to assert ownership over its own destiny: and an Africa increasingly confident and capable, itself, of determining that destiny.

1.3 The Participants acknowledged that from its inception in 1993, the TICAD Process with Japan at its centre and other co-organizers including the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank playing a valuable role stressed the importance for Africa to exercise full “ownership” of its own development agenda and the need for a genuine “partnership” with the international community in pursuit of that agenda. In this regard, the TICAD Process has also served as a bridge between African and Japan and Asia as a whole, and as a Forum through which the Asian development experience can be shared with Africa. It is clear that the pursuit of an even closer relationship, based on shared concerns and common strategic interests, is of critical importance in terms of further enhancing global development and stability.

1.4 The Partnership at TICAD IV also recognised the need for Africa’s diversified development partners, working together with the governments of Africa and with the African Union and its institutions and programmes – in particular NEPAD – to actively strive for far greater synergy and effective coordination between and among existing and future initiatives in support of African development.

2.0 Recent Trends and Challenges

2.1 The Participants at TICAD IV acknowledged the positive trends which have emerged across the African continent in general since TICAD III in 2003. Increasing political stability and improved governance, buttressed by strong economic growth and rising levels of foreign direct investment – much of it coming from Asia – have helped to create a new awareness of trade, investment and tourism opportunities available across the continent: opportunities which present a hitherto

unprecedented prospect for the countries of Africa to achieve real and sustainable economic growth, and to make, thereby, real and sustainable progress towards poverty alleviation, a real improvement in the quality of life and self-reliance across the continent.

2.2 In this regard the Participants at TICAD IV commended the birth in 2001 of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), the transformation of the Organisation of African Union (AU) in 2002 and the increasing effectiveness of Africa's Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and the emergence of vibrant and competent civil society sector in Africa as further confirmation of Africa's determination, and enhanced capacity to exercise full ownership of its own development agenda.

2.3 In particular, the Participants took note of the outcome of the Tenth Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly held in Addis Ababa from 31 January to 2 February 2008, which called, inter alia, for an immediate acceleration in the industrialization of Africa, a definitive shift away from dependence on primary products, and the development of Africa-based industries capable of local value-addition and processing.

2.4 The Participants at TICAD IV noted the strenuous efforts being made by the African countries themselves towards improved governance across the continent, including the ongoing work of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

2.5 The Participants at TICAD IV notes that, notwithstanding these very encouraging trends, the countries of Africa continue to face a number of serious challenges. The most immediate of these challenges include continuing widespread poverty and unemployment in rural and urban areas; lagging behind in achieving all of the goals of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); ineffective and unfair electoral system; low agricultural productivity which, together with generally poor agricultural infrastructure, sharp rise in food price, and the increasingly severe effects of climate change; low levels of industrialisation and inadequate generation of and access to energy across the continent; the scourge of HIV/AIDS, [TB, Malaria] and other infectious diseases which continues its ravages across much of the continent; inadequate access to education at all levels and a corresponding lack of adequate education-infrastructure – specially in sub-saharan Africa. They noted the special needs of least developed countries, land-locked and small islands development states.

2.6 Participant acknowledged that whereas African governments bear primary responsibility for the economic and social well-being of their respective peoples, the international community and, efforts to address and overcome these challenges.

2.7 In this regard, the Participants stressed the importance for the G8 countries to take corresponding actions to the commitments already made in respect of support for African

development and for All Africa's development partners to work towards a greater coordination and strengthening of the broad international partnership with the African continent – specially to facilitate a greater focus of effort, to avoid duplication and any unnecessary wastage of scarce resources.

2.8 Building on these positive trend in Africa and guided by the vision outlined in NEPAD, but also fully cognisant of the considerable developmental challenges with continue to comfort the countries of Africa, the Partnership as TICAD IV committed themselves to work together on the following specific but inter-related priority-areas:

- Towards Boosting Economic Growth
- Towards Ensuring Human Security, including achieving MDGs and consolidation of peace and good governance
- Towards Addressing Environmental Issued and Climate Change

3.0 Boosting Economic Growth

3.1 The Participants at TICAD IV acknowledged the enormous, as-yet largely untapped natural resource potential across the continent and stressed that it is essential to accelerate broad-based economic growth and diversification. And, such economic growth and diversification should contribute to ending poverty and inequality.

Human resource development

3.2 The Participants at TICAD IV noted the enormous challenges facing African countries in the area of human resource development, especially in the field of science and technology. They noted the significant contribution being made in this regard by Japan and other developed partners, and recognised the considering potential for expansion in this critical sector of development cooperation.

Accelerated Industrial Development

3.3 The Participants also recalled the conclusion s of the Tenth Ordinary session of the African Union Assembly, with regards to the urgent need to accelerate the industrial development in Africa.

Infrastructure

3.4 The Participants emphasized the fundamental need to focus on the development of region-wide infrastructure.

Agricultural and rural development

3.5 The Participants as TICAD IV acknowledged the role of agriculture as a major component of economic activity across the continent, and emphasised the urgent need to significantly enhance current levels of agricultural productivity and support in this critical sector such as provision and

management of water resources. Agricultural and rural reform in the framework of the NEPAD Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) were acknowledged as effective towards the achievement of food security and poverty alleviation and a major driving entrepreneurs and local industries.

Trade and Investment

3.6 The Participants at TICAD IV noted that, although the current level of international trade and investment with African countries, including trade and investment flows between Africa and Japan, and other Asian countries had certainly improved. Africa's share of global trade and investment flows was still insignificant. In this regard, the participants recognised the need to work together for the early, fair and balanced conclusion of the WTO Doha Round, They also acknowledged the importance of Aid for Trade initiative.

Proportion of tourism

3.7 The Participants stressed that Africa has enormous potential in this sector, with the dual effect of positively impacting on several other sectors whilst building a positive image of Africa. They emphasised the importance for African countries to cooperate more closely in the tourism sector and , in this regard, recognised the need of the sharing of experiences and know how as well as tourism was also recognised.

Role of the Private sector

3.8 The Participants at TICAD IV noted. also the important role of the private sector –both domestic and foreign – in the promotion and financing of sustainable economic growth in Africa, especially, with regard to the development of the continent's natural resources in the industrial, management to Africa's considerable human resources.

3.9 In this context, and spurred by the progress being made towards improving the overall business climate across the continent, the Participants welcomed the growing interest and activities of the Japanese and other Asian private sector in promoting trade and investment in Africa.

4.0 Achieving the Millennium Development Goals- MDGs

Economic and Social Dimensions of "Human Security"

4.1 The Participants as TICAD IV noted that a more vigorous impetus is necessary to attain the Millennium Development Goals by the year 2015. They acknowledged the intern-relatedness of the MDGs and the urgent need to promote a more fully-comprehensive approach towards their general attainment.

4.2 In this regard, the Participants welcomed TICAD IV's focus upon and promotion of the concept

of “Human Security”, which underscores freedom from fear and freedom from want, and emphasises the promotion and empowerment of individuals and communities.

4.3 Community Development: Building safe and Healthy Communities

The participants acknowledged that strengthening a comprehensive and community based approach would be effective in achieving the MDGs. This approach encompasses human-resource development, decent job-creation, in particular for the youth, income generation, expansion of access to primary health-care and basic education, as well as agricultural and rural development, including through promotion of One-Village- One- Product (OVOP) movement.

4.4 Education: Realising Education which opens up a New Future

The Participants stressed the fundamental need of improving the quality of and expanding access to education for African people, with special emphasis on youth, and promoting education linked to growth and self-sustainability, including technical and vocational approach with other sectors of development.

4.5 Health: Ensuring Reliable Health and sanitation

- In addition to tackling HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, polio and other infectious diseases, the Participants acknowledged the significance of strengthening health systems to effectively deal with major health challenges including maternal, new-born, and child health, with particular focus on human resource development of health- related worker.
- The Participants warmly welcomed the creation of the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize, the first ever of its kind.

4.6 Gender: gender equality and women’s Empowerment

Recognising the significant role of women in development and peace consolidation, the Participants as TICAD IV reemphasised the importance of advanced and protecting the human rights of women, promoting and supporting and supporting gender-equality and women’s empowerment at all levels of society, while taking in to account the cultural specificities of different countries.

5.0 Consolidating peace, Democratisation and Good Governance

Political dimensions of “Human Security”

5.1 The Participants at TICAD IV reiterate that development, democratisation and peace must work in tandem with each other. They noted the significant progress made in this regard across the African continent and stressed that, to recognise a Vibrant Africa, dividends of peace must spread to every corner of the continent.

5.2 The Participants also reemphasised that countries coming out of conflict need special assistance

to get of the path of reconstruction and sustainable peace-building efforts encompassing conflict prevention, early warning measures, a conflict resolution, and preventing relapses into conflict, are critical as they will promote durable peace in the continent. To sustain peace acquires through these processes, sound democracy, continuous and inclusive dialogue, and strengthened governance need to be vigorously fostered. Furthermore, smooth transition between these phases and collaboration between assistance in the area of peace consolidation and other development areas are also crucial.

5.3 the participants put an emphasis on the importance of Africa's ownership and welcomed AU's initiatives such as the Africa Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to improve governance. The Participants also welcomed the goodwill shown by development partners, especially to enhance Africa's peace-keeping capabilities. The participants also called attention to the significant role of the UN and its bodies such as the Security Council and the Peace Building Commission as well as AU, Africa's regional organisations and African countries themselves contributing to peace keeping operations. They also committed the mediation efforts made by African countries for the reconciliation and peaceful resolution of armed conflicts in Africa.

5.4 In this regard, Participants emphasised the importance of the early reform of the main UN bodies including the Security Council to better meet the international environment of the 21st century. Participants reemphasised that the member states should exert efforts on the Security Council reform during the current session of the UN General Assembly.

6.0 Addressing Environmental issues and Climate Change :

To realise, In Africa, the concept of "Cool Earth Promotion Programme"

6.1 Climate Change

-The participants at TICAD IV noted that African countries, which are the least emitters, have generally been extremely vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change, including increase in frequent extreme weather patterns causing floods and droughts, environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity. Further attention should be paid to deforestation and desertification, which adds more stress to already vulnerable societies. They continue to be inadequately equipped to terms of their mitigation and adaptation capacities.

-Recognizing the need to assist Africa in enhancing environment protection initiative and welcoming the initiatives taken recently by Africans themselves, the Participants at TIVAD IV acknowledges Japan's Cool Earth Promotion Programme and the leadership shown by the Government of Japan in seeking to strengthen the current Kyoto Protocol on greenhouse emissions for post 2012.

-Although, the Participants welcomed the announcement by the Government of Japan, in January 2008, of its intention to establish a Cool Earth Partnership with US \$ 10 billion Financial

Mechanism on the basis of policy consultations between Japan and developing countries, African countries requests to put more fund under UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol, where voices from developing countries are also included in the governance structure. Also Africa calls for support for urgent implementation of adaptation actions, including through vulnerability assessments, prioritization of actions, financial needs assessments, capacity-building. Any mitigation actions by African countries should be within the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity-building by developed countries including Japan.

6.2 Water: Securing access to water and sanitation

The Participants acknowledged the importance of water as an indispensable resource for addressing development needs such as health, agriculture/food production, disaster risk reduction, and peace and security. They also acknowledged that it was essential to promote sustainable use of water resources.

6.3 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

The Participants acknowledged the importance of the Education for Sustainable Development initiative and its promotion to address environmental issues effectively.

7.0 A Broadened Partnership

TICAD within a Broadened Global Partnership towards a Vibrant Africa

7.1 The Participants at TICAD IV acknowledged that, since its inception in 1993, the TICAD Process has strengthened the twin concept of “Ownership” and “Partnership” and has contributed, in a significant manner, to African Development.

7.2 The Participants recognised the importance of enhanced South-South cooperation within the context of TICAD and acknowledged the positive results of efforts, under TICAD, to promote trends and initiatives so as to achieve greater synergy and coordination between and among existing initiatives so as to achieve greater coherence, focus and efficiency in the overall global development-partnership for a vibrant Africa.

8.0 The way Forward

8.1 The Participants at TICAD IV noted with sincere appreciation the continuing commitment of development partners including the Government of Japan, other TICAD co-organisers and the international community to be promotion of African development and, in particular, their championing of the TICAD Process.

8.2 The Participants warmly welcomed the progress achieved so far in the context of TICAD, and also noted the broad range of activities and initiatives outlined in the TICAD IV Action Plan under each of the three principle priority areas identified by TICAD IV.

8.3 The Participants noted that a successful and timely attainment of the overreaching objective of sustained and accelerated African development would require the commitment and engagement of the international community as a whole, and for the knowledge and resources of all of Africa's development partners to be mobilising in a more consolidated, more synergetic manner.

8.4 The Participants as TIVAD IV welcomed the action-oriented outcome of the Conference and appreciated that this had been clearly captured in this Declaration and in the accompanying TIVAD IV Action Plan.

8.5 The Participation also welcomed the establishment of a TICAD Follow-UP Mechanism, tasked to continuously monitor and analyse the implementation of the TICAD Process as a whole, and the ongoing assessment of its impact upon African development across its many sectors of activity.

8.6 The Participants welcomed the commitment of Japan, as the G8 Chair, to reflect the outcomes of the TICAD IV to the discussions in the July 2008 G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit and to seek active G8 support for African development.