Civic Commission of Africa

Afri-Can
Japan Citizen's Network for TICAD

URGING JAPAN, THROUGH THE TICAD PROCESS, TO ACCELERATE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS TOWARDS AFRICA'S SUSTAINABILITY

Utilizing the Momentum of TICAD VI in Africa in 2016

Participants – Joint Africa Japan CSO Strategy Meeting Kampala, Uganda 11-12 February 2015

A Policy Document Presented by Civic Commission of Africa (CCfA) and Japan Citizen Network for TICAD (JCNT)

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I.   INTRODUCTION

In February 2015, two civil society organizations, Civic Commission of Africa (**CCfA**) and Japan Citizen Network for TICAD (**JCNT**) converged in Kampala Uganda where they conducted a joint strategy meeting. This meeting was the first meeting between the two organizations to create a common strategy and a policy document of African and Japanese civil society for their engagement with TICAD VI. This policy document is an outcome of the said joint meeting between the two civil society organizations, CCfA for Africa and JCNT for Japan.

Since TICAD I in 1993, civil society in Africa and Japan coherently advocated the process and urged the co-organizers to allow for wider participation and wider role of civil society in the TICAD process.

In preparation and leading to TICAD IV, Japanese civil society established "TICAD Civil Society Forum", and African civil society established "Civic Commission of Africa (CCfA)". The two organizations coherently worked to advocate the TICAD process for a wider involvement of civil society in the process. After TICAD IV, African and Japanese civil society participated in all of the official conferences of TICAD, including annual ministerial conferences, preparatory meetings for TICAD V and its Summit in 2013.

> *Utilizing TICAD VI to Maximize Africa's Development:*
> - Ensure **substantial civil society participation** in the TICAD process
> - Addressing **inequality gap** through programmes targeting the vulnerable groups
> - Integrating youth issues in development programming to address **youth unemployment**
> - Private Sector led collaboration and Knowledge transfer in higher/vocational **education and Technology**
> - Ensuring achievement of **universal and equitable access to essential social services**
> - Meeting Africa's development challenges by **aligning with the SDGs**
> - **Promotion of PPPs** to facilitate & establish technological innovations
> - **Involving communities in** establishing social development programs

After TICAD V, Japanese civil society renovated its network to the current "Japan Citizen's Network for TICAD" (JCNT) with its new leadership. CCfA and JCNT have coherently started their collaboration for the upcoming TICAD VI.

II.   BACKGROUND CONTEXT

Africa's growth rate in the past 4 or so years is commendable, despite persistent social, economic, political, and technical and other such challenges. The available resources do not match the existing needs of the continent. The policy environment is still lacking in terms of enhancement of participation of civil society in the development agenda; African and world leader's fulfillment of commitments; appropriate technology; putting people at the forefront of development; peace issues; environmental sustainability (Climate change); the current nature of financing and partnership, to mention a few. Notwithstanding all that, the new International Goals for Development depend critically on the ability of Governments to accelerate and sustain development initiatives, not only at country level but at both regional and continental levels.

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The African Union and some regional groupings have developed frameworks geared towards addressing Africa's never-ending challenges through initiatives like the Regional Economic Commissions (RECs) and some Regional Groupings (EAC, SADC, ECOWAS etc.), NEPAD, CAADP., the purpose of which is to try and deal with and address some of Africa's challenges at regional level, at a more focused level, and at continental level. Most African countries are yet to achieve most of the MDG pillars. Any development initiative for Africa need to use the experiences and lessons learnt from the 2015 MDGs moving forward. There is a need for African countries and any development framework geared towards Africa's development to consciously move towards working within the AU's established and existing frameworks, especially those dealing directly and within the different RECS's as a way to capacitate and support them for better delivery to the people of Africa.
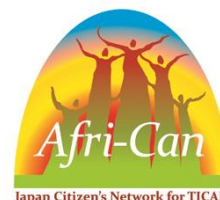
In spite of the remarkable economic and social development outcomes in past decades in Africa, inequality has been widened and many people are still marginalized/excluded and left behind. Inequality to some extent results from insufficient people/community participation and persistent neglects of human rights of the most poor and marginalized. And the limited domestic resource/revenue mobilization and the lack of fair/adequate distribution systems of the benefits from development have had negative impacts on African sustainable and equitable development and economic growth.

World population statistics show that over half of Africa's population is youth. And Africa has done well in educating the youth with most countries likely to achieve the goals set for MDG 2. However, these youth, who are mostly educated need to be engaged, given hope and their energies well channeled to productive use because failure to do so could be a 'potential security risk' for the continent. There is need to point the youth to a positive future by opening their eyes to some realities and teaching them to engage in debates and negotiations instead of resorting to destructive and deviant behaviors to achieve their ends. African youth also need to be engaged on sexual reproductive health and family planning for better balance between finite resources, a prosperous society, low dependency ratios and improved quality of life. Engaging youth in holistic development this way would motivate them, give them a sense of hope and control of their destiny, security and take their attention away from risky behaviors that have a potential for destabilization of countries and regions and the continent.

Various statistics have shown that women are a driving force behind Africa's economy, running an estimated 48% of small and medium-sized businesses and growing 80% of the food in less than 10% of the land. This is despite the many reasons and challenges as to why women still remain in small and medium size businesses; from issues related to access to reliable and affordable financial services; poor infrastructure to enable transfer of information and goods; private investment opportunities across Africa are in sectors way beyond the reach of most African women who are mostly small traders and peasant farmers; land and property rights etc. If Africa is to meet and realize its development agenda, more has to be done to ensure women bring to the table their full potential; that women are assisted to play a bigger role in Africa's economy. Empowering women to participate in the economy and wealth creation of Africa has a multiplying effect especially on the welfare of the family, on health, education, food security and other such social drivers.

Given the high need and demand for economic diversification among most African countries; and challenges with delivery due to political, technical, financial and bureaucratic realities, there is an urgent need for any development agenda for Africa to consider a shift towards working with and engaging, at most, directly with Africa's private sector. If Africa is to meet its infrastructure and technical gap, any development initiative geared towards Africa's economic growth should consider a framework that engages Africa's private sector to help drive and boost Africa's economic growth. This frame work should also take cognizance of and work within the current processes in the implementation of the Rio+20 outcomes such as the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development Goals, and the Africa Regional Consultation on the Sustainable Development Goals.

III. SUMMARY

Africa is a continent with a lot of potential. With committed development partners like Japan, through its TICAD framework and working in collaboration with the TICAD co organizers, Africa should realize its development aspirations. However, the TICAD too needs to align with and deliver within the new International Goals for Development. TICAD should ensure that its process takes into account Africa's realities alluded to above, the issues of the need for infrastructure and technological development and transfer; the growing inequality between the rich and the poor in African communities; the growing populations and urban areas with high unemployment especially among the youth; development frameworks that continue to disregard women's contributions; a development framework that should strive for a government led development agenda with accountability and transparency; and a framework that promotes economic growth through responsible private sector.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

Recognizing the enormous challenges that became severe way back in 2008 with the global financial crisis; the increase in food and energy prices; job losses by millions of people world over; rising trends such as population growth, the youth bulge, urbanization and security situation world over;

Appreciating that countries, development partners, private sector and the African communities have invested considerably to bring about economic, democratic, financial changes that has advanced infrastructure; communication; health, education and agricultural systems, coordination efforts through the leadership of the Africa union in the last decade.

Noting that Africa is a continent endowed with rich natural resources based on rich biodiversity, mineral wealth and human resources, which if managed well are capable of facilitating equitable and sustainable development for its citizens; and that Africa's economies are consistently growing faster than those of almost any other region at twice the rate of the 1990s; after a decade of buoyant growth, almost half of Africans still live on less than $1.25 a day; African economies are growing at an average rate of 5.5 %, with 6 countries among the top 10 of fastest growing economies even reaching

between 7.5% and 11.1% in 2012; and that wealth disparities are increasingly visible between rich and poor;

Concerned about African countries dependence on imported goods including food; there exists a remarkable inappropriate skills and technology gap to exploit its endowments; the absence of the Japanese private sector as a good partner of vibrant African private sector to open up wider market opportunities; the limited abilities of governments to mobilize domestic resources/revenues due to the inadequate tax systems, the absence of sound distribution/redistribution systems of the profit of economic growth to the people; the lack of appropriate people-centered and rights-based approaches to development; the insufficient level of accountability, transparency and inclusiveness in public institutions/processes and in foreign capitals;

Worried of all the support Africa has received in the past years; the continent still experiences high levels of poverty and inequality, disease and dependency; the devastating climate change effects which deteriorates local biodiversity crucial for natural resources;

Considering that TICAD has genuinely demonstrated that CSOs are not only a value addition to the TICAD process but an inevitable partner in attaining inclusive societies in Africa;

Aware that CSOs bring forward views from the grassroots into the development arena with alternatives and ideas which ensure that the results of TICAD V can be relevant to the majority of the African people;

1. PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN TICAD

We highly recognize, with appreciation to TICAD the co-organizers, the level of participation of Civil Society in the previous TICAD processes. We call upon the TICAD co-organizers to ensure full inclusion and official participation of Civil Society in every aspect of TICAD processes, from policy planning, implementation and monitoring, as well as the reflection of the inputs from Civil Society in the TICAD outcome document. In order to realize this, we request the TICAD co-organizers to:

- Hold official meetings of all the TICAD co-organizers, including African Union, with Civil Society
- Reflect opinions of various stakeholders, including private sector especially SMEs, local businesses, family farmers, youth, and civil societies from both Japan and Africa.
- Reflect the needs of Africa as articulated by civil society and the African Union Commission
- Take the lead to introduce to TICAD a framework open to non-state actors where they discuss thematic issues and the results are reflected on the official outcome document. Similar frameworks are functioning in other international conferences, such as "Major Groups" in UN Conferences on sustainable development (UNCSD, SDGs Open Working Group, Intergovernmental negotiation on Post-2015 Agenda).

2. PEOPLE CENTERED DEVELOPMENT

Recognizing that Africa is the second-largest and second most populous continent on earth with an estimated population in 2013 of 1.033 billion people. Africa is home to 54 recognized sovereign states and countries, 9 territories and 2 de facto independent states with very little recognition.

Concerned that economic growth does not inherently contribute to human development and calls for changes in social, cultural, political, rights based, and environmental values and practices.People centered development should focus on improving local communities' self-reliance, social justice, and participatory decision-making practices. Community participation and true democratic process demand that people have the means to hold government officials and public institutions accountable. It requires that governments act as enablers for the peoples' agenda, creating policies that enhance citizen action

2.1 All Inclusive Development Agenda

The Multilateral and Bilateral approaches to Education/Health/Food Security/Gender/WASH need to be inclusive and people centered, and respect/promote any laws, standards and guidelines regarding human rights

To assist African communities and people in general to appreciate Japan's development assistance to their communities and to own the development initiatives themselves, we call on the Japanese government to:

- Emulate experiences from other existing development frameworks of building partnerships directly with Community Based Organizations - CBOs, Faith Based Organizations - FBOs, Non Governmental Organizations - NGOs and national NGO networks for better and more effective delivery of services at community level which also ensures implementation of people centered programming and projects
- Improve the usability of existing funding schemes such as "Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects" in order to align with and to meet community needs directly
- Introduce global community development approaches as well as community led inclusive development frameworks aiming for people centered development and ensuring that the most vulnerable groups such as women, children and persons with disabilities are not left behind by development

2.2 Sustainable Development Goals - SDGs

It is our view that the TICAD process should be allied to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in order for Africa to meet its development challenges. And it is our strong believe that the SDGs will only be achieved when all sectors are effectively integrated and working closely together. We call on the TICAD process to articulate within its action plan and framework:

- A commitment to fulfill promises already made to assist in ensuring universal and free education at primary and secondary school in Africa and to ensure it is education of high quality and better standard
- Universal access to Health, including sexual and reproductive, Maternal, New Born and Child health and rights. Remove financial, social, cultural and gender-based obstacles for health, focus on social determinants of health, and ensure 4A (accessibility, affordability, availability and acceptability) for essential health services. Support community efforts to better health, including prevention and behavior change against HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases as well as non-communicable diseases (NCDs)
- Acceleration of efforts to defeat HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and other infectious diseases, as well as immunization and vaccination. Full funding of the resource needs of the Global Fund for HIV, TB and Malaria, GAVI Alliance and the IPPF are crucial to achieving these goals
- Support African member states in setting credible milestones to achieve universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene by 2030, by assisting the development of national strategies and credible financing strategies
- Introduce and implement policy and plans that prioritize the benefit to and impact on the most marginalized children in order to secure every child's right
- Ensure existence of a disability policy making framework that is human and equality rights based, not one that is influenced by the types of and the causes of disability. And we request that the policy making process should be participatory to all stakeholders including people with disability themselves
- Assistance to African governments for the development of legal systems and policies that effectively realize citizens' right to food. Recognizing that Japan had improved the level of its nations' right to food status by innovative laws and policies such as the *"provided lunch and nutrition education programme during compulsory education".* Assistance to transfer such models needs to be considered, and it should be adopted and adapted to meet the unique context of each of the African states
- Work within existing frameworks to consider/include issues of elimination of exploitation of children, women and the vulnerable people (the people socially excluded), such as child labour and human trafficking
- The Japanese government to provide financial and technical assistance to ensure operationalization of the existing international and continental instrument at the local level, e.g. those for child labour, human trafficking, forced marriage etc.

3. STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

3.1 Addressing inequality through programmes that target the most vulnerable groups (women, youth/children, the poor and persons with disabilities)

We call on the TICAD framework to support governments to establish sound redistribution systems of the benefits from economic growth to the people, especially to the most poor and the vulnerable/marginalized, such as equitable progressive tax systems, effective social security/social

welfare systems, and well-coordinated public investment policy and implementation for social infrastructure with certain level of accountability and transparency. Also, sound environment for entrepreneurship for the people should be developed.

We also call on the TICAD framework to develop financing mechanism that reduce inequality; Reform the implementation mechanism to give more leverage to National Governments in the process of implementation. In as much as they might not close the inequality completely, they will assist in keeping the vulnerable and the unemployed engaged and also giving them hope. An example of one such would be to consider the **Conditional Cash Transfer** as the one practiced in such countries as Brazil, Philippines and many other developing countries, and in the case of the Botswana government, the **Drought Relief Fund** or **Ipelegeng Scheme**. Another example is **NREGA** (National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) of India that is to reduce unemployment, ensure re-distribution of wealth and public investment for social infrastructure by creating jobs for people in rural area. These assist in creating employment and engaging unemployed youth and other vulnerable people in a community, in the process developing a community.

3.2 Youth Unemployment and job creation

We call on the TICAD process to conduct studies to determine and fully understand causes of high unemployment in Africa and to integrate youth issues in development programming, vocational training, and providing incentives for business entrepreneurship;

- We request the Japanese government to assist African member states with placement for students and youth programmes in order to create opportunities for on the job training, experience, knowledge sharing and exposure
- We also urge the TICAD process to develop a policy framework that supports the implementation of students and youth placements for those countries who do not have such policies and encourage exchanges within the continent amongst African countries and with Japan
- We urge the Japanese government to consider a framework for African small businesses and entrepreneurs similar to the AGOA for promotion from and to encourage growth from small scale to medium and to large scale businesses for African entrepreneurs

3.3 Agriculture Financing and mechanization to address food security and Nutrition diversification

In order to end Africa's persistent poverty and malnutrition, we wish to urge the Japanese government to assist African governments **(financially)** through budget support specifically targeted towards agriculture related budget in order to assist them meet their 10% national budget towards agricultural finance as stipulated under the Maputo Declaration and **(technically)**by technical and human support through:

- The development of women focused exchange programmes between and amongst African and Japanese women subsistence farmers
- The development of an agricultural policy with emphasis on nutrition
- Expansion of targeted subsidies in order to improve not only the productivity of grain as staple food but also the productivity of food with high nutritional value

- Promotion of and investment in research on agricultural development with priority given to nutrition. (e.g. such as the research on improvement of grain micronutrient through bio-fortification)
- Regulating investment by foreign capital that are not transparent and that deprive the people's rights to food and land

Agricultural investment on small scale family farming needs to be promoted through Cooperative Societies and Associations and access to markets, which ensure benefit to the small scale family farming through:

- The promotion of and establishment of cooperative association in order not to marginalize the vulnerable small scale family farmers, to assist them to collectively access markets and negotiate prices
- Creation of a system which cushions small scale family farmers from the impact and effects of global market prices
- Notably, the measures need to be implemented with recognition that small scale family farming, which is usually conducted in agro ecological manner, plays a great role for the African and global food security, and in forms that are not impinging on their customary rights and intellectual property

4. SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

4.1 Private Sector led collaboration & Knowledge transfer in higher/vocational Education/Job training and Technology

We urge the Japanese government through the TICAD process and framework to:
- Commit to supporting vocational and technical training and capacity building
- Develop structured framework on technology apprentices, exchanges and training especially for the youth and in collaboration with both African and Japanese private sectors
- Establish a public fund to educate people for sound business management and entrepreneurship, and the formalization of innovative informal sector business, implemented in collaboration with JETRO-IDE (Institute of Developing Economies), for purposes of the utilization of its vast pool of researchers in African economy. And we also urge the government of Japan to renovate and revamp the "One-Village One-Product" initiative, taking forward lessons learnt from the initial programming

4.2 Electrification in rural areas

We call on the Japanese government to establish a framework within the TICAD process that deliberately influences the expansion of rural electrification networks and introduce other renewable energy sources especially those in support of the United Nation's Secretary General's Sustainable Energy for All **(SE4ALL)**

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5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY/NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT/CLIMATE CHANGE

CONCERNED that the exploitation of Africa's natural resources and biodiversity base is not fully translating into value-adding activities, adequate employment opportunities, and enhanced economic returns for the continent;

CONSIDERING the latest report from the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicating that with timely and sufficient global climate actions there is still a chance to keep warming to below 2.0 degrees Celsius – the official target ceiling of the international climate talks – and even below 1.5 degrees Celsius, which is the maximum ceiling acceptable for many of us given the loss and damage posed by further climate impacts;

DETERMINED to address the potential adverse effects of these challenges on Africa's transformative agenda and **COGNIZANT** of the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) in addressing the challenges of natural resource management and biodiversity;

We call on TICAD VI to consider the following issues:-

5.1 Sustainable exploitation and utilization of Natural resources

- Review and strengthen existing frameworks in combating depletion and degradation of natural resources

5.2 Equitable sharing of the benefits of the Natural Resources

- Promote equitable sharing of natural resources benefits through strengthening policies regarding the exploitation of natural resources

5.3 Research and Development in Environmental Technology and Green Growth.

- Promote Public and Private partnerships to facilitate and establish technological innovations for sustainable exploitation of natural resources

5.4 Addressing the Vulnerabilities of climate change

- We call on the Japanese Government to commit to and deliver fully and unequivocally their fair share of the effort to solve climate change and ensure a full repayment of the emissions debt owed to Africa
- The Japan Government should uphold the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibility and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC) with regard to UNFCCC
- In ensuring a low carbon pathway trajectory, TICAD VI should aim at ensuring countries are bound by the Kyoto Protocol (KP)
- We call on the African Union Commission to establish a framework to monitor to ensure that African governments stop following the same path of profit-led, destructive high carbon growth taken by developed countries that benefit only the elites, start taking on their fair share of the global effort, and be unrelenting in claiming climate finance and technology from developed

country governments for African countries to undertake mitigation actions over and beyond their own fair share of the global effort

- Climate Change adaptation and resilience is key for Africa hence we call on the Japan's Government commitment on financial mechanisms e.g. Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund, LDC fund, Private and Public Finance

5.5 Policy for energy-saving industrial development

- To promote the policy of industrial development which is different from the experiences of industrial development which have resulted in a large level of energy consumption
- To support the building of consensus to policy which enables the introduction of energy-saving technologies to be promoted in Africa
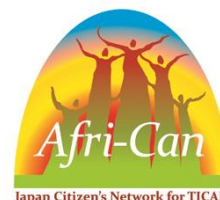
6. FINANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS

6.1 Infrastructure and the Private sector

There is need to build a bridge between African governments and Africa's private sector, assist them to work better together effectively. When the two are working well together, the contribution to Africa's development by Africa's private sector is bound to be highly beneficial to Africa's people, societies and communities.

- We urge all TICAD co-sponsors, especially the Japanese and African governments to ensure existence of a framework that promotes full inclusion of Africa's private sector in Africa's infrastructure development through policies and processes that ensures that for every foreign private sector infrastructure or any type of developmental project, Africa's private sector is fully engaged and utilized. This would assist in building the capacities of Africa's private sector to in future be able to deliver such projects on their own; strengthening their capacities to sustain and expand the infrastructure; monitor the quality of work delivered and ensure adherence to specifications for better quality project from foreign private sector and developers; and to maintain the work after the delivery to government. By having policies that ensure that Africa's private sector is involved at that level and stages would assist in their development and strengthen their capacities to in future take charge of Africa's developmental needs. Involving them also ensures some of the financial proceeds towards such projects trickle down to local companies, thus retaining some of the wealth within the country and continent
- That Africa's development and especially infrastructure project and interventions are deliberately targeted at and inclusive of youth in order to produce Africa's own future artisans and engineers. We urge the Japanese and African governments and the private sector to include and involve youth by subcontracting them to deliver smaller construction and 'add-on' type projects as a way of imparting skills; giving them ownership to projects they are likely to end up being in charge of, supervising and maintaining in their adult life; allow them and capacitate them to do the monitoring and evaluation of such projects so that they learn quality control and standards issues from an early stage; assist them to know when Africa is getting value for its money from projects delivered by foreign companies and foreign private sector and

when not and ensure themselves a quality of life at par with their counterparts elsewhere in the world.

- We also call on the Japanese and African governments to initiate a formal structure that brings in and develops a strong link with African Diaspora who are keen on investing in Africa. This policy framework should be inclusive of and structured such that it will also target and bring on board and tap onto Africa's High Net Worth Individual's (**HNWI)** capacities and potentials. It is our belief that Africa's HNWIs are better placed to drive Africa's development from within Africa, working with African governments and their development and collaborating partners. This framework needs to harness their potential and channel them well to play the 'Philanthropy' role that would ensure that Africa takes charge of its own development from within. And we urge both Africa's HNWIs, Japanese and African governments to include Africa's youth in their investments and develop mentorship programmes and projects that give back to and develop future philanthropists from Africa for Africa's development.
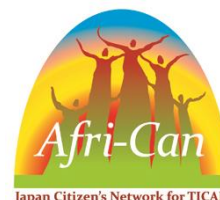
6.2 Accountability, monitoring and evaluation

- We call on the African Union Commission through the TICAD process to develop and enforce a framework geared towards ensuring tougher standards and superior quality control measures towards all long term infrastructure development project undertaken through loan-aid. This is to guard against an African country left paying a huge debt towards a project that collapsed within the first 5 years of existence resulting from sub standard performance and poor quality material use
- We urge the African Union Commission as a co-sponsor to the TICAD, to take a lead an initiate the development of a code of conduct towards Africa's sale of natural resources. This is to guard against corrupt governments and officials disenfranchising the country and the people to their own personal benefit
- We call on the TICAD co-sponsors to replicate other development initiatives and structures for Africa, by involving African civil society and other social networks and structures during the development stage of all TICAD process, during implementation and throughout the monitoring processes. This ensures ownership by Africa's people and communities on development targeted at them. A good example being how Africa tackled and continues to tackle health related calamities, especially HIV and AIDS. Development partners worked through and directly with local NGOs, CBOs and FBOs
- We urge the TICAD framework to include funding for capacitating African governments to adhere to AU's agreed processes and frameworks that ensure accountability and transparency like the Africa Peer Review Mechanism **(APRM)**

6.3 An equal partnership in terms of trade and development(Capital outflows and in balance in trade)

- We call on the Japanese government to work with Civil Society to identify African farmers and support them by identifying and opening markets for them in Japan and throughout the world
- We request that value addition on the value chains for market products should be promoted under the TICAD process and collaborations

6.4 Funding for infrastructure development and financing for social development

It is our belief that all sustainable development frameworks should ensure a balance between financing for infrastructure development and financing for social development. It is very important to also consider social responsibility for sustainability of investments. We therefore call on the TICAD process to ensure the promotion of and the involvement of communities in developing social development programs and in monitoring infrastructure projects.

- Encourage the existence of a policy on quality assurance, skills transfer and sustainability
- Ensure adherence to transparency, accountability and Governance; all actors in development should respect human rights and ensure environmental sustainability, and be accountable for the social and environmental impacts of their activities, programs and investments
- Also, considering the erosion of financial resources in many African countries due to the unstable export revenues, the burden of sovereign debt repayment, illicit financial outflow from Africa, etc., it is our belief that African country's should ensure sufficient public revenue generation through adequate taxation for social development

6.5 Follow the commitments and protocols agreed by African member states

We urge Japanese government to support African member states to operationalize existing international, continental and regional instruments, commitments, declarations and protocols in Africa like:

- Tunis outcome document (WASH)
- 2000 Abuja declaration calling for 15% of government budget towards Health
- 2002 Dar-es-Salam declaration calling for 20% of government budget towards Education
- 2003 Maputo declaration calling for 10% of government towards Agriculture
- Accra (Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights)
- 2013 Gaborone declaration on Climate Change
- And others

7. SOCIAL, CULTURAL, ART & INTELLECTUAL EXCHANGES

7.1 Promotion of social, cultural, art and intellectual exchanges between Africa and Japan

There is need to promote social, cultural and intellectual exchanges between Africa and Japan. There has been significant levels of cultural and sports exchanges among private sector and civil society, but not so about art and intellectual exchanges. The government of Japan, African Union and related public sector, as well as universities, private sector and private foundations, should increase their support for the efforts of civil society and other non-profit sector to strengthen wider and diverse social, cultural, art and intellectual exchanges between Africa and Japan

7.2 Promotion of Twinning – Sister City Exchange

As part of promoting the People to People pillar under the TICAD V outcome document, and for purposes of cultural exchange and exposure, we call on the TICAD process to promote a framework geared towards Twinning. We urge the Japanese government to increase the number of **"Sister City Exchanges"** it has with Africa to emulate what it has with its other partners. A number of cities,

towns and villages in Japan have sister cities in Asia (568), North America (510), Europe (328) and others while only three cities have sister cities in Africa. We call for an increase in Africa as well.

"Peace is more than the absence of conflict. It is the tranquility of good order; the serenity that accompanies the agreement of human wills"- Unknown

8. PEACE AND SECURITY

Statists and other anecdotal evidence reveal that during
times of armed and other forms of conflict, there are known human rights abuses, especially of women and children, and that perpetrators hardly ever get punished for committing such crimes.

We call on the TICAD co-organizers to develop a framework that ensures provision of minimum security in societies, even where there are no conflicts and war, to promote peaceful co-existence amongst communities, that ensures people live dignified lives; and provide mechanisms that offer prevention of violence, crimes, etc. Because it is only through people live peacefully together that conflicts would be minimized

8.1 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies

Acknowledging the importance of women's equal and full participation as active agents in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace-building and peacekeeping;

Recognizing the impact that sexual violence in conflict has on the maintenance of peace and security

We call on the TICAD co-sponsors to provide resources, technical and financial, to assist Africa governments to adopt, ratify and operationalize Article 1325 of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) as reinforced by article 1820 also of the UNSC, both calling for:

- Ensuring that women's equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and urges all actors to increase the participation of women and incorporate gender perspective in all areas of peace building
- Strengthening of women's participation in peace processes and the development of indicators to measure progress on Resolution 1325
- Ensure that parties to armed conflict should take appropriate measures to protect civilians from sexual violence
- Emphasis should be for peacekeeping missions to protect women and children from sexual violence during armed conflict, sexual violence

8.2 Follow the commitments and protocols agreed by African member states

We call on the TICAD to support existing AU, Regional Economic Communities and African member states instruments geared towards peace and conflict resolution frameworks; and to ensure that these frameworks involve participation of women, youth and the marginalized.
- Design programmes that address root causes of insecurity eg. Water, Sanitation, Land, Oil;
- Ensure equitable distribution of Resources
- Deeper look at Root causes of conflicts

8.3 **Assistance for those affected by wars and conflicts (refugees, asylum-seekers and Internally Displaced Persons)**

Concerned that global refugee (refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons: IDPs) figure passes 50 million for first time since Second World War (UNHCR report June 2014); especially that more than half of those displace are children. (Sub-Saharan Africa only had 2.9 million refugees).

Aware that the global number of IDPs stood at 26.4 million, out of which 9.7 million, the largest regional population is in sub-Saharan Africa. (UNHCR, Global Overview 2011) They face a range of risks related to their displacement, including threats to their physical security and integrity, a lack of access to basic necessities and livelihoods, and violations and their rights relating to housing, jobs, education, health care, land and property:

• We call on the TICAD process to support humanitarian assistance for those affected by wars and conflicts including refugees and IDPs. And to also put in place development programmes aimed at addressing the IDPs' specific vulnerabilities.

V. CONCLUSION

> *We call on all TICAD co-sponsors to work with the AU, African governments and communities, especially women and youth groups; and most importantly with CCfA and JCNT to consolidate in order to bring sustainable development to Africa, that is not only relevant, but is targeted*

In conclusion, we ask the government of Japan to build on the commitment it has shown throughout the years; especially during the end of the cold war when other development partners shifted their focus away from Africa's development, Japan remained focused on Africa thereby initiating the TICAD process. And with the joining of the TICAD as a co-sponsor by the African Union in 2010, this should be a time to consolidate Africa's efforts towards sustainable development.

Also from lessons learnt from the 2015 MDGs, a committed partner and friend like Japan should through the TICAD process and framework support the development of transformative indicators, which go beyond what is easy to measure; to instead prioritize the hardest to do tasks because these would make the biggest impact. Having large numbers of children attending school or a certain number of women in leadership positions though desirable is not always the answer. The answer should be what caliber of women are in those positions and what quality of education are those children acquiring. This is a time to go beyond the easy and the usual, it's about focusing more on what would develop Africa like focusing particular attention to the quality of education that would make sustainable development a reality.

In the years that CCfA and JCNT (then Africa Japan Forum) have been involved with the TICAD process we have built confidence is Japan's and the other co-sponsors ability and capacity to deliver on our suggestions, which by the way are building on and reinforcing on AU's and other international partners to Africa like the United Nations existing frameworks.