



**CCFA AND JAPAN CITIZENS' NETWORK POSITION STATEMENT DURING THE TICAD UPDATE MEETING
24TH -25TH AUGUST 2017
MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE**

Preamble

We, representatives of Civil Society (CS) under the auspices of Civic Commission for Africa (CCFA) and Japan Citizens' Network for TICAD (Afri-Can), appreciate the government and people of Japan, the African Union Commission, UNDP, UNOSAA and the World Bank for the valued technical and financial contribution and commitment to the development of Africa.

Applaud the co organisers for the space civil society has been accorded to participate in the TICAD meetings, specifically for this Maputo progress meeting.

Commend the TICAD co-organizers for the deliberate inclusion of private sector and other non-state actors following TICAD VI commitments. As civil society, our view is that for the continent to develop, it needs a robust private sector to play a pivotal role in the development of Africa. We however urge for effective monitoring on its positive and negative impacts on environment and society

Note the opportunity TICAD VI has provided to the private sector to directly interact with African governments as an avenue to promote business and investments in Africa. This step is in the right direction to propel Africa's economic growth.

Concerned about the escalating level of insecurity in many regions in Africa especially the Sahel region and the Lake Chad basin.

We would like to further point out concerns and recommendations we have identified as priority: -

1. All TICAD investments should be people centered – this means that it should ensure that rights of all citizen are observed, interventions be driven by the community needs and should avoid tokenistic approaches.
2. To ensure that civil society and the community play their accountability role in monitoring the implementation of the TICAD VI process at country level – we call upon the organizers to allocate resources that will enable Civil Society to carry M&E effectively and in a coordinated manner. When Civil Society are involved in M&E process we will be able to develop alternative/peoples reports and document case studies on how the TICAD process is benefitting grassroots communities.
3. Openness in the support to the TICAD process – there should be clarity and proper documentation on the projects each country is implementing, amounts and timelines available to the public at country level. This will enable and promote effective accountable utilization of resources.
4. TICAD VI should play a catalytic role laying a foundation for the provision of Means of Implementation for the Paris Agreement for Africa. These include climate finance, capacity building and technology development and transfer targeting local communities, which are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Minimize environmental and social impacts – pre-project assessment on its impacts on environment, society and communities should be prioritized before any investment is done, and Community involvement from the early stage of project formulation process is crucial to minimize their negative impacts.
5. More meaningful participation and engagement of Civil society and communities in the TICAD implementation plan at country level. Where the co-organizers have involved CCFA in the high-level meetings, we call for similar efforts at country level.

6. Support the implementation of Universal Health Coverage including universal access to essential medicines, at country level that ensures engagement of CS and communities in development of policies and programs to ensure a bottom up approach that promotes increase in demand and accountability.
7. Projects and programs should ensure that children are protected against violence, abuse or any form of exploitation. Vaccination continues to be a priority for all children for a healthy nation. Social services aiming at increased access to Sexual reproductive health services and comprehensive sexuality education by youth, women and girls should be seen as a must to guarantee economic growth.
8. TICAD process should make available increased electrification in rural areas through focus on renewable energy. Invest in the basics and key needs - water and sanitation, education – keeping girls in school
9. In as much as we appreciate and understand the need for the private sector involvement in the development of Africa, we plead with the African governments that development projects put emphasis on the social aspects as well as the profitability. And we call upon the comprehensive and inclusive involvement of citizens on any development projects that is going to have impact on their lives
10. The Japanese private sector to collaborate with the African private sector in any development projects on equitable basis but we are concerned that it is not the case. Instead, the TICAD process seems to be assisting Japanese private sector to promote their product and services; something that could probably lead to taking raw materials out of the continent.
11. We understand that there is going to be a private sector Forum between Africa and Japan, but we strongly recommend for the involvement of non-state actors, especially civil society at such a forum as a body that links the governments and the communities.
12. In this regard, we wish to advocate for all developments especially those are agro-based to be on PPP models and ensure that local communities are part of the PPP especially on the land that they occupy.
13. While appreciating the efforts of TICAD towards peace, security and social stability, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) strongly believe that these should be concretized through an effective good governance project. This should be based on participatory democracy, free, fair and transparent elections which guarantee power alternation and human dignity.
14. To control terrorism and violent extremism, we implore that CSOs be involved in the campaigns against extremisms; that there should be effective border control to check the proliferation of illicit arms; the de-radicalization of the youth through job creation, employment and relevant vocational training programmes; the transparent management of border resources, promote inter-religious dialogue; foster intelligence-sharing and introduce peace education in schools and communities; creation of a Regional Commission for Religious and Moral Education.
15. We express our deep concern on a visa denial case that happened against a Japanese registered civil society participant of TICAD VI Follow-up Ministerial Level Meeting. We recognize that the right of civil society to participate in TICAD process is fundamental to ensure multi-sectorial involvement to ensure TICAD truly contributes towards Africa's development. We request governments of hosting country of TICAD, the Government of Japan, and TICAD Co-organizers to ensure full participation of civil society and other non-state actors for all TICAD -related meetings.

In conclusion, we thank the co-organizers and member states for affording us the space to participate and voice out our recommendations at these meetings.

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