

TICAD V Senior Officers Meeting (SOM) 15 - 17 November 2012:

***THE AFRICA AND TICAD WE WANT:
An Interactive Dialogue Session between
TICAD Co-organizers and Civil Society***

**By Ms Maungo Mooki from Botswana
Representing “The Civic Commission of Africa”**

My Co-chair, Your Excellency Mr Yoshifumi Okamura the Director General of African Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan;

Ms. Aileen Marshall, Senior Partnership Specialist, Africa Region, The World Bank;

Ms. Mieko Ikegame, Chief, Coordination, Advocacy and Programme Development Unit, United Nations Office of Special Advisors on Africa;

Mr Babacar Cisse, Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director for Africa, UNDP;

Miss Fiona Lortan, Political Officer Peace and Security Department African Union Commission;

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen all protocols observed.

Civil Society has been actively involved in the TICAD process since its inception in 1993, although at that time its visibility was minimal and not direct. In 1998, the active involvement of Civil Society was significantly emerging and in 2003 Civil Society in TICAD took a more formal shape, from which today it has become an embodiment of this process. To us this is a major milestone for the success of the TICAD initiative, and we thank the co-organizers for involving civil society

On behalf of the Civil Society, the Civic Commission of Africa (CCfA) wishes to applaud the TICAD framework for keeping together the formidable partnership of the AU, World Bank, UNDP, UN and Japan to focus on African Development consistently for 20 yrs, and this is a development framework we see as unique. Allow me to appraise the TICAD IV for having been able to

move on for the last 5 years to implement the plans that were set in Yokohama 2008, and I am sure some have been accomplished with great success.

Recognising 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;

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 those rural people heavily depends on natural resources as their subsistence; African economies are growing at an average rate of 5½% (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;

Worried of all the support Africa has received in the past years; the continent still experiences high levels of poverty, disease and dependency; the devastating climate change effects which deteriorates local biodiversity crucial for natural resources; the Japanese Tsunami accompanied by the Fukushima nuclear disaster; the recent New York giant storm Sandy; various floods and droughts across many parts of Africa; gender disparity; youth unemployment; and refugees, internal displaced persons, and people with disabilities resulting from civil wars and internal conflicts; the rate at which MDGs are being achieved;

We members of the civil society through the Civic Commission of Africa together with Japan TICAD V NGO Contact Group wish to reiterate that the

development of Africa has been delayed and all efforts need to be put in, to accelerate the development process. We therefore request TICAD V to promote Africa's development through;

- Supporting the democratic governance as prescribed under the NEPAD and the APRM instrument in order to attract Africa's much needed FDI.
- Facilitating the transfer of technology and skills by taking local realities including the investment in research
- Recommit to CAADP and the Maputo declaration and support governments to meet their commitments
- Support an agriculture system that supports small scale farmers especially women who form the majority of the farming community.
- Promoting involvement of Japanese private sector to empower Africa's small and medium enterprises and open up markets for exchange
- Supporting constructive dialogue on trade investment and movement of human and financial capital between developed and developing countries.
- facilitating effective implementation of international commitments on climate change, biodiversity conservation, and the environment; especially promote the UN Secretary General's Sustainable Energy for All initiative (SE4ALL) and commit to supporting all initiatives agreed by the Kyoto Protocol and influence other global carbon emitters to do the same contribute to the Aichi targets of Convention of Biodiversity, and to the decision of COP11 to double the funding for biodiversity conservation
- Supporting initiatives of Africa's health such as the implementation of the road map of the AU against AIDS TB and Malaria, promote sexual and reproductive health, especially among African youths, and provide fully support to multilateral health initiative such as the Global Fund and GAVI Alliance,
- Raising more resources to finance the achievement of food security in Africa as the main way of realising a fair and just society where everyone is able to live meaningful life and allow self and collective inclusion of all the people of Africa in the main stream of their economic benefits.

- Providing technical and financial support for governments to achieve the other MDG targets by 2015 and commit to the post-MDGs development framework,
- Welcoming TICAD commitment to free primary and secondary education, we encourage TICAD to ensure a favourable environment for girls in schools, as well as increase funding in technical education for the youth to acquire skills through which they would be able to create employment and enhance their productive capacities
- Supporting creation of national response funds for disasters management natural resource management with a view to creating an environment conducive to growth and stability,
- Giving financial, technical and logistical support to the AU, EAC, ECOWAS, SADC and other inter governmental initiatives such as the International Conference on the Great Lake that are already working on peace and stability.
- Supporting democracy building and strengthening democratic institutions and justice systems to allow African owned democracy, foster good governance and human rights to fight corruption, enhance transparency and accountability in all aspects of politics, economy and society which are preconditions for security and stability in Africa.
- Creating an enabling environment that is committed to, support, protect and promote women's roles and rights in decision making, ensure equitable income and land redistribution, zero tolerance of violence against women and target commitments to women's reproductive health made in the African Union Protocol on the Rights of Women, the Maputo Plan of Action and other regional and international instruments.

The list is not conclusive, but those are the major focus areas that we request TICAD V to focus on. Lastly we wish to thank the government and the people of Burkina Faso for the excellent hospitality they have given to us since our arrival in the country.