TICAD V Thematic Session 3: Towards the Post-2015 Development Agenda
2 June 2013

Chair's Summary Report:

Overview:

Thematic Session 3 specifically focused on Africa's priorities for the Post-2015 Development Agenda. It addressed three interrelated issues: the first, related to those MDGs that continue to be challenges for Africa, in particular, those related to poverty, education and health, and the ways to accelerate their achievement by 2015. The second highlighted new and emerging challenges to sustainable development in Africa including environmental sustainability, energy and population dynamics. The third, underscored overarching issues of relevance to the Post-2015 Development Agenda with respect to human security, global partnerships and the means of implementation.

The Session was chaired by Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with support from his Special Adviser on Africa, Mr. Maged Abdelaziz. It included a keynote address by Her Excellency, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, the President of the Republic of Liberia and Co-Chair of the United Nations Secretary-General's High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Other speakers included the Foreign Ministers of Japan, H.E. Fumio Kishida; Sierra Leone, H.E. Dr. Samura Kamara, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; Kenya, H.E. Mr. Kamau, Cabinet Minister; UNICEF, Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director; the Global Environmental Facility, Dr. Naoko Ishii, Chief Executive Officer; FAO, Mr. Jose Graziano da Silva, Director-General on behalf of the UN Rome based agencies; and the International Tropical Timber Organization, Mr. Emmanuel Ze Meka.

High level participants, including Heads of State and Government engaged widely on these issues, shared information and offered practical suggestions on how to ensure that Africa's developmental needs and priorities are fully reflected in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

The following points highlight key issues raised and conclusions reached.

General Discussions:

It was noted that there are now 942 days left before the deadline on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). TICAD V should galvanize action to achieve the MDGs, strategize on how to tackle MDGs that are unlikely to be unmet and help to set the stage for the success of the new development framework. The United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel submitted its report to him on 30 May 2013, following a wide ranging consultative process aimed at reflecting Africa's interests and priorities in the report. The report acknowledges the remarkable success of the MDGs and recommends that the new development framework should carry forward the spirit of the Millennium Declaration with a practical focus on issues such as poverty, hunger, water and sanitation, women and youth empowerment, education and health.

Today, Africa and indeed the entire world stands at cross roads regarding poverty eradication. While the continent has experienced significant progress, major challenges remain and many countries are not on track to achieve the MDGs by 2015. This is particularly the case in

fragile and conflict affected states. Reference was made to the World Bank Global Monitoring Report 2013, reflecting that 20 fragile conflict affected countries have met one or more targets under the MDGs, including gender parity in education; 6 have met the target on improved access to safe water; 8 have met the goal halving extreme poverty.

Participants agreed that a transformative agenda must be pursued for not only Africa but also the rest of the world. It was emphasized that the new development framework should carry forward those MDGs that are still relevant to today's world; address the emerging challenges that perpetuate poverty – deforestation, land degradation, desertification, and loss of biodiversity and climate change.
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It was noted that the intense regional consultations in Africa on the Post-2015 Development Agenda identified four major priority areas:(i) structural economic transformation and inclusive growth including strong, sustained and inclusive growth, agriculture, food security and nutrition, green growth, industrialization and value addition, infrastructure and enhanced technological capacities; (ii) innovation, technological transfer, research and development; (iii) human development; and (iv) financing and partnerships. Moreover, it was noted that achieving the development outcomes requires an enabling environment at national, regional and global levels. Some of the enablers identified as prerequisites for the Post-2015 Development Agenda are peace and security, good governance, transparency and fighting corruption, human rights for all, regional integration and strengthened institutional capacity.

As Africa focuses on maximizing human development from its economic growth and striving to achieve the MDGs, the international debate is underway on what the Post-2015 Development Agenda might look like. It was noted that the remaining period would provide an opportunity to accelerate progress towards the MDGs including through targeted projects to reduce poverty rates, eradicate polio, increase immunization, combat AIDS and ensure access to clean water and nutrition.

It was also noted that human security is an effective approach in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival and livelihood and dignity of people because it strengthens capacity building and the empowerment of individuals and communities especially women and young people.

On the issues related to new and emerging challenges, it was noted that according to the IMF and World Bank, Africa should see growth rates of 5.5 per cent this year and over 6 per cent in 2014. However, for the continent to sustain (and even increase) this economic growth, there is a need to address 3 mega trends – population dynamics, high income (expanding middle class), and faster urbanization. These trends generate rapid growth in demand for food, energy, water and resources. Participants noted that the continent is particularly faced with the double challenge for its sustainable development agenda, whereby growth must come with a strong and resilient natural ecosystem at its foundation.

Participants highlighted growing concerns about the need to address issues such as maritime development – and its importance in promoting the transformative agenda for Africa. Moreover, it was emphasized that, maritime industry and oceans are more than sources of food and energy, the African maritime sector is very crucial not only to the protection of the environment but also for the generation of wealth.

Participants further stressed that disaster risk reduction is an issue that the current MDGs have not addressed sufficiently. Yet in Africa, many people have been affected by floods, droughts and other disasters. In this regard, participants stressed the important need to focus on reducing risks of disaster and building resilience in communities through preparedness and prevention strategies and programmes across sectors.

Key Recommendations:

In light of the above, participants recommended:

1. Countries must scale up on-going interventions on the push to achieve the MDGs by the target date of 2015 by re-examining and redefining existing interventions with a view to achieving positive results; adopt quick wins/tipping points (expand medicated nets, immunization, public education, outreach, incentives, etc.). For example, rapid scaling up of community health workers in Africa with a target of 1 million deployed health workers by 2015.

2. African countries must utilize the strategy of sharing experiences and lessons learned as a way to enable efforts for a seamless transition from the MDGs to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the full implementation of the Rio+20 Outcome Document.

3. Beyond the year 2015, the world needs a development framework that will build upon where the MDGs have been successful, remedy where they have fallen short, and provide a road map for a long term strategy that balances people and the planet. A development framework that will bring out the full potential of the continent for the benefit of all Africans.

4. The soon to be adopted African common position on Post-2015 Development Agenda should be attuned to the TICAD V 2013-2017 Action Plan, and the 2063 new Africa vision as well as the priorities of the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

5. The new development framework should be sustained by credible national ownership and leadership along with the global and regional partnership. And, the goals in the new development framework must not be developed in isolation, but in a cohesive manner by keeping in mind how each goal can contribute to achieving all of the goals.

6. Climate change must remain at the forefront of Africa's concern particularly in Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) and the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). It requires a global action particularly on mitigation and adaptation. The continent has to adapt its production structures to take advantage of the green and blue economy route with transformation opportunities for low energy, low carbon and clean technology for development. There is also a need to increase the resilience of rural communities so that they are better able to cope with and respond to climate change and extreme weather events.

7. African countries must invest in the critical agents of change: small producers, traders, and their organizations; family farmers, including women; fisheries and livestock keepers; forest users, rural workers, and indigenous peoples. And, there is a need to

encourage entrepreneurs, especially young entrepreneurs to invest in agriculture and rural development. Moreover, investing in agriculture is still one the most effective strategies for reducing hunger and poverty in rural areas.

Conclusions:

TICAD V has provided an opportunity to collectively take stock of the achievements made over the last 20 years of TICAD and 50 years of the Organization of the African Union (OAU/AU). As we work 'hand in hand' to implement the TICAD V Outcome Documents, we must adopt approaches that promote Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance.

Africa must invest in health, education, protection, nutrition and sanitation to help the most vulnerable populations to become more resilient, and better able to withstand the effects of climate change — including droughts. Countries and development partners should do more than strengthen the social protection floor — they should transform that floor into an elevator of growth and resilience for everyone being left behind.

It is important for that the Post-2015 Development Agenda to recognize the complex nexus between peace, security and development and capitalize upon the synergies between the three dimensions. In the countries struggling with or recovering from conflict, it is important that the development community's efforts address not only peace and security, but development as a key driver of peace.

Africa's success requires a strong global partnership for development including TICAD, new and emerging development partners, and wide range of strategic partners such as, the private sector, civil society and academia. These partnerships will require development partners to ensure ownership, coherence and alignment with national and regional priorities. This renewed global partnership will enable a transformative, people-centred and planet sensitive development agenda to be realized through the equal partnership of all stakeholders.