

TICAD V Ministerial Preparatory Meeting (16 March 2013)

Plenary 3: Peace and Stability in Africa: Pressing Issues Chair's Summary

The session on "*Peace and Stability in Africa: Pressing Issues*" comprised of an in-depth presentation on the current status of peace and security in Africa and general discussions that focused on a number of specific issues and priorities that TICAD should support. Dr. Admore Kambudzi, the Secretary of the African Union Peace and Security Council (AU-PSC) made the presentation on behalf of H.E. Ramtane Lamamra, the Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union. The session was co-chaired by Mr Maged Abdelaziz, the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) and Mr Maxwell Mkwezalamba, Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the African Union.

The thrust of the discussions in this plenary session included the following:

1. It emphasised the nexus between peace and security, governance, human rights, sustainable economic growth and development and need for comprehensive approaches in addressing threats to peace and security in Africa that takes this nexus into consideration.
2. The urgent need to address the underlying causes of insecurity and instability, including terrorism, piracy and other crimes emanating from under-development, socio-economic exclusion, and bad governance. Given that security threats such as terrorism are further exacerbated by persisting problems of youth unemployment and extreme poverty, there is a need to promote socio-economic development.
3. Participants acknowledged the Africa's own efforts to tackle its own problems by its own means and noted that these has led to the reduction in the frequency and intensity of conflicts on the continent. They stressed there is no dearth of initiatives in Africa to address challenges relating to peace, security and development. Rather what is lacking is the resources to fully operationalise and/or implement these initiatives in a sustained and coherent manner.
4. In line with the above, participants called on TICAD V to continue to support African institutional capacities to address socio-economic development and peace and security challenges, including through support to African Union programmes such as the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) that will mark 10 years this 2013. Besides the APRM, TICAD V should support capacity development of the Africa Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), including for the Panel of the Wise, Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), operationalisation of the African Standby Force (ASF) and for post-conflict reconstruction and development. That same support should be extended to the Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

5. The importance of cooperation and partnerships at national, regional, continental and international levels for tackling the myriad of peace, security and development challenges was stressed. Such partnerships could for instance involve countries concerned, countries of the region and the international community in the fight to combat terrorism and maritime piracy, inter alia. It could also involve capacity development, human resource development, knowledge and technology transfers.
6. Appreciation was expressed to the Government of Japan for the contribution of \$550 USD Million in support of humanitarian assistance for the Sahel/Mali (including AFISMA), Somalia, among others. Participants also noted that such support should extend beyond humanitarian assistance to include allotments for conflict prevention, the strengthening of the APSA including the ASF capability and post-conflict reconstruction and urged other partners in the TICAD PROCESS TO FOLLOW SUIT .
7. The need to work with TICAD partners to enhance the relations between preventive diplomacy, peace-making, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, especially given that the work of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) is centred around 6 African countries. The range of issues in this continuum is also instrumental for achieving human security.
8. On the current situations in the Sahel/Mali, DRC, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Central African Republic and other hot spots in the continent, participants noted that though these are priority countries, the support of TICAD V should not be limited to specific countries or sub-regions. Rather, TICAD V should aim to support peace and security processes across the continent on an equal basis.
9. A call was made for TICAD V to support the implementation of the African Charter on Elections, Democracy and Good Governance to avert unconstitutional changes in government and electoral violence as well as promote good governance including with respect to diversity management.
10. There was also a call for TICAD V to help African countries to address cross-border issues such as money laundering; human, drugs and arms trafficking; piracy.
11. Forced migration and displacements with high numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) are consequences of conflict, violence and instability. On this note participant further called on TICAD V to continue to provide humanitarian assistance to refugees and IDPs.
12. Participants stressed the need for reforms of global governance institutions and processes; and further noted such processes provide

unique opportunities to increase Africa's representation, voice and participation. This also applies to the TICAD framework and process.

13. Participants emphasised the need for African governments to formulate and implement pro-people policies and laws, including with respect to women, youth and diverse minor groups. They recommended that TICAD V support governments by strengthening their capacities to formulate and implement policies that would for instance tackle issues such as youth unemployment, violence against women, gender parity, DDR and SSR.
14. Peacekeeping operations that are not financed through assessed contributions to the UN peacekeeping budget such as AMISOM should be supported. TICAD V can serve as a platform for mobilising such support including for AMISOM's maritime surveillance capacity.
15. TICAD V would also support peacekeeping training and capacity development for African countries to contribute military and police units to UN peacekeeping operations. Participants called for support to the 12 existing peacekeeping training centres in Africa towards achieving these objectives. Such support would also include provision of arms and ammunition to countries participating in peacekeeping operations.
16. Private sector relations and partnerships are essential and can contribute to combating poverty and thus ensuring security and stability. In this regard, TICAD V would enhance relations between Japanese private sector and civil society and those of other partners with the African continent.
17. TICAD V would support the resolution of natural resource conflicts, including those relating to water management, pastures to deal with situations such as those in Sudan and South Sudan. The impact of climate change on peace and security was also highlighted. In this regard, TICAD V was called upon to enhance its support for disaster risk reduction.