

Section 2

Japan's International Cooperation (Development Cooperation and Response to Global Issues)

Overview

(Development Cooperation Charter and Strategic Use of ODA)

More than sixty years have passed since Japan started its Official Development Assistance (ODA)¹ in 1954. Japan's development cooperation policy including ODA has greatly contributed to securing the peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community and consequently the national interests of Japan for many years.

On the other hand, the international situation with regard to development cooperation is at a major crossroad. The world is facing more diverse and complex challenges transcending national borders as the world becomes increasingly globalized. Furthermore, considering the growing roles of recent non-ODA public/private funds and support from emerging countries, it is important to collect wisdom and actions of developing countries as well as developed countries and various resources apart from the central government (corporations, local governments, NGOs, etc.). In this new era, it is essential for ensuring Japan's national

interests that Japan should consider development cooperation as a part of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation, and strategically use ODA to address development and human rights issues while continuing to adhere to the course that Japan has taken to date as a peace-loving nation. Under the Development Cooperation Charter established based on this recognition (decided by the Cabinet in February 2015), there is a need to steadily implement the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," the international development goals. It is also vital to establish anew a fully adequate system in order to secure the safety of Japanese people engaged in international cooperation abroad.

For Japan, development cooperation is one of the most important diplomatic tools and is essential for its proactive contribution to peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community, from humanitarian assistance such as initiatives to resolve issues concerning refugees in the Middle East and Africa, emergency assistance in response to disasters, to economic and

¹ For details on Japan's international cooperation, refer to "Japan's International Cooperation" of White Paper on Development Cooperation.

social development in developing countries such as infrastructure development and human resource development. At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in May, which Japan presided over, Japan announced that it would provide support of about 6 billion US dollars over three years for stabilizing the Middle East region, 1.1 billion US dollars to tackle global health issues, and support human resource development to promote the empowerment of women. In addition, at the TICAD VI held in August, Japan took strong initiative aimed at resolving international development issues, including announcements on its plan to invest in Africa's future through efforts such as human resource development for about 10 million people, development of quality infrastructure at a scale of 30 billion US dollars from the public and private sectors combined, the establishment of health systems, and building foundations for peace and stability.

The revitalization of Japan's economy through the growth of developing countries and its growth alongside these countries is also an important issue for Japan's national interest. As described in the "Japan Revitalization Strategy" (revised in June 2016) and "Infrastructure Systems Export Strategy" (revised in May 2016), it is necessary to utilize ODA strategically in order to further promote the overseas expansion of Japanese corporations. In May, Japan announced that it would provide financing of approximately 200 billion US dollars in the next five years to infrastructural projects across the world, as part of an all-Japan effort under the "Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure." (see Special Feature "Quality Infrastructure Investment")

Based on the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy" proposed by Prime Minister Abe in August (see Special Feature "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy"), it is important to promote quality infrastructure investment to strengthen the "connectivity" between Asia and the Middle East/Africa, while proactively utilizing ODA, so as to continue contributing to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.

Such efforts by Japan have won both high praise and trust from the international community. Japan has to continue and strengthen the efforts in the future so that Japan can lead the international community as a major responsible country in the world and ensure the international environment and order in line with Japan's national interests.

(Response to Global Issues)

While globalization has resulted in dramatic economic and social development worldwide, it has also brought about diverse threats to human security. The threats include conflict, terrorism, disasters, global environmental issues such as climate change, global health issues including infectious diseases, human trafficking, refugee issues, labor issues, and economic crises. These global issues cannot be addressed by one country alone. The international community must work together based on the concept of human security. While the year 2015 was a "milestone year" because new frameworks for these global issues were formulated, the year 2016 was the first year for the implementation of these frameworks, and Japan exerted its leadership through TICAD IV and the G7 Ise-Shima Summit

that it presided over.

With the aim of implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were adopted as international development goals with the year 2030 as the target deadline, the SDGs Promotion Headquarters was established within the Cabinet in May 2016, headed by the Prime Minister and comprising all Ministers as members. Japan's guidelines toward the achievement of the SDGs (SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles) were decided upon in December. In the area of disaster risk reduction, which is essential to realize sustainable development, the "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030" was adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai in March 2015, and steady efforts are underway to bring disaster risk reduction into the mainstream. The enactment of "World Tsunami Awareness Day" (November 5), adopted at the UN General Assembly in December 2015, was followed by the implementation of related activities in 2016 including events to raise awareness about the "World Tsunami Awareness Day" in Japan and around the world, as well as tsunami disaster evacuation exercises. In the area of health, Japan contributed to the international efforts in addressing global health challenges based on the "Basic Design for Peace and Health" formulated in September 2015 as its Global Health policy under the Development Cooperation Charter. These issues were highlighted at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit in May 2016, and TICAD VI in August the same year, where Japan took the lead in discussions

on health system strengthening, including strengthening response capability to public health emergencies such as infectious diseases, and promoting of Universal Health Coverage (UHC)² that contributes to crisis response.

In the area of climate change, the Paris Agreement was adopted at the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) held in France in December 2015. This Agreement is a fair and effective framework that provides for the setting and submission of greenhouse gas emission reduction goals by each country independently, with no distinction between developing and developed countries, and for the implementation of initiatives toward the achievement of these goals. It entered into force on November 4, 2016. Japan completed its ratification procedures for the Paris Agreement on November 8 and participated actively in negotiations on the formulation of the relevant guidelines at COP22 (held in Morocco). The adopted agreement reflects Japan's assertions and established the continued negotiations on the relevant guidelines through the participation of all countries as well as the adoption of these principles by 2018.

Japan will continue to cooperate with the respective countries, international organizations, and civil society, etc., under the Global Partnership; promote human security including its areas of strength such as disaster risk reduction, health, women, and education; and work actively toward the resolution of global issues.

Arctic issues are coming up for debate in the international arena, as changes

² To endure affordable access to basic health services for all whenever they need them throughout their lives

in the Arctic environment caused by global warming have brought about new possibilities such as the use of the Arctic Sea Routes and the development of natural resources, as well as challenges such as the serious impact on the vulnerable natural environment of the Arctic. Japan adopted “Japan’s Arctic Policy” with a view to contribute to the international community as a main player in addressing these issues. Taking this opportunity, Japan will participate even more actively in the formulation process of international rules concerning the Arctic through such initiatives as further strengthening its contribution to activities of the Arctic Council (AC), and demonstrating its view and efforts on Arctic issues at the occasion of bilateral and multilateral meetings other

than the AC.

In the Arctic Ocean, with the decline of sea ice of the Arctic Ocean caused by global warming, the development of natural resources and the use of new shipping routes via the Arctic Ocean have become a real possibility. On the other hand, environmental changes in the Arctic could have an impact not only on the Arctic ecosystems and the livelihoods of the indigenous people living there but also on the entire global environment. Based on “Japan’s Arctic Policy” adopted in 2015, Japan will actively participate in the international rule-making process over the Arctic, as well as promote global international cooperation on the Arctic through further contribution of the activities of the AC and expansion of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

(Science and Technology Diplomacy)

Science and technology constitute the foundational elements for peace and prosperity that support socioeconomic development, and play a vital role in security. In this regard, Japan’s advanced science and technology attracts a high level of international interest and expectations. Japan, through cooperation in science and technology, has been contributing to the development of science and technology at home and abroad, the promotion of relations with other countries, the peace and stability of the international community, and the resolution of global challenges. Japan is also placing emphasis on effective promotion of “science and technology diplomacy” through the activities of the Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.



The launch of the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA), which aims to improve nutrition conditions in Africa, was declared at TICAD VI. (Photo: JICA)



Providing psychosocial support to Syrian refugees with disabilities (Jordan). JICA provides support through means such as the establishment of peer support groups in which persons with disabilities support one another, and promotes social participation among persons with disabilities. (Photo: JICA)

1 Development Cooperation (ODA, etc.)

(1) The Current Status of ODA

A FY2016 Priority Policy for Development Cooperation

From the perspective of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, development cooperation is one of the most important tools toward further contributing to securing the peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community, and promoting Japan’s diplomatic policies. With the aim of promoting strategic and effective development cooperation based on the Development Cooperation Charter, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has positioned the following as priority issues



Syrian refugee camp located in the southeast part of Turkey, where most of the refugees are concentrated. Japan provides support mainly to local governments in Turkey with the aim of reducing the burden on the host country in areas such as water and sewage, and waste disposal. (Photo: JICA)



Users of the Health Insurance Subsidy Program (HISP) for the poor, which is one of the key actions supported by the Health Sector Policy Loan for Attainment of the Universal Health Coverage that Japan offers to Kenya. (Photo: JICA)

for FY2016 and will tackle these challenges while strengthening cooperation with various entities.

(A) Improving the environment and sharing universal values to achieve international peace and stability

Through cooperation on humanitarian assistance, counter-terrorism, peacebuilding, and strengthening maritime law enforcement capabilities, Japan contributes proactively to the realization of peace and stability for the international community. Japan is involved in cooperative initiatives including the development of legal systems and strengthening of governance in order to support efforts by countries sharing universal values such as democracy, the rule of law, and human rights, and to strengthen the



National Sports Event (South Sudan)
This event was held for the first time after the country gained independence in 2011 with support from Japan. Athletes from different regions, of different ethnic groups, competed against one another in the spirit of fair play. (Photo: JICA)



Prime Minister Abe delivering a speech at the High-Level Panel on UHC in Africa, held during TICAD VI. (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

relationship of these countries with Japan. Through development cooperation, Japan also puts effort into fostering pro-Japanese groups and Japanologists, strengthening networks, and the active communication of Japan's appeal and initiatives to other countries.

(B) Addressing global challenges and promoting human security through implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Japan has been accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development based on the philosophy of human security. Japan will make efforts to address global issues through promoting cooperation in various areas such as health, education, disaster risk reduction, gender, and environment and climate change.

(C) Contributing to economic diplomacy and regional revitalization with the aim of achieving “quality growth” alongside developing countries

In order to contribute to economic growth and regional revitalization in Japan, and at the same time, engage in cooperation toward the realization of “quality growth” in developing countries, Japan is involved in cooperative efforts that contribute to the export of infrastructure systems. In cooperation with economic diplomacy initiatives including the TPP agreement, it also works to improve the environment for foreign direct investment, and to support the overseas expansion of local governments and small and medium-sized enterprises. Furthermore, Japan provides support for the development of human resources for industries in developing countries and



International students who had come to Japan through the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative), targeted at youths in Africa. These students are expected to play an active role in leading the business sector in Africa. (Photo: JICA)



Tsubasa Bridge (Neak Loeung Bridge) in Cambodia. This bridge was erected as a part of Japan's support for the Southern Economic Corridor in the Mekong Subregion. With a structure that looks like a bird spreading its wings, it was named “Tsubasa Bridge” as a prayer for further development of Cambodia's relationship with Japan. (Photo: JICA)

engages in cooperation on the international expansion of medical technologies and services through the promotion of Japanese standards.

(D) Strengthening cooperation with various entities

In tackling the above-mentioned priority areas, (A) to (C), Japan seeks to strengthen cooperation with various entities. Based on the Development Cooperation Charter, Japan strives to establish the implementation systems necessary for the strategic expansion of its development cooperation, and at the same time, further strengthen cooperation with private companies, local governments, universities

and research institutions, NGOs and CSOs, and international/regional organizations.

B Safety Measures for Personnel

Engaged in International Cooperation Projects

In the terrorist attacks that struck Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, in July, seven Japanese engaged in ODA efforts lost their lives while one Japanese was injured. The government is determined to continue supporting developing countries, and to never give in to terrorism; however, the international terrorism situation is becoming increasingly severe. To ensure the safety of Japanese personnel engaged in international cooperation abroad, it is vital to establish a new system for ensuring utmost preparedness.

From the standpoint of such awareness, the Council on Safety Measures for International Cooperation Projects was established under the Minister for Foreign Affairs. After five meetings with participation from many members from the relevant ministries and agencies, the Council published its final report at the end of August which sets forth new safety measures for personnel engaged in international cooperation projects. The final report covered the safety measures that should be taken in cooperation between the MOFA and the JICA, with the relevant parties, in accordance with the following five pillars: (1) Strengthening the collection, analysis, and sharing of threat information; (2) Code of conduct of partners and NGOs; (3) Physical/non-physical protective measures, and strengthening training and

drills; (4) Post-crisis response; and (5) Heightening crisis management awareness and improving the organizational structure of the MOFA and the JICA.

Going forward, Japan will keep up the steady implementation of new safety measures in order to continue contributing proactively to the peace, stability, and prosperity in the international community as a responsible major power, and at the same time, ensure the safety of personnel engaged in international cooperation projects.

(2) Japan's Development Cooperation Performance and Approaches to Major Regions

A Japan's ODA Performance

In 2015, Japan provided approximately 15.03 billion US dollars in ODA³, 5.6% less than the previous year on the basis of total disbursements. Japan ranks fourth among the member states of the Organization for the Economic Co-operation and Development/ Development Assistance Committee (OECD/DAC), following the U.S., Germany, and the UK. In terms of net disbursements generally used for international comparison, the amount is about 9.2 billion US dollars, down 3.0% from the previous year, ranking fourth after the U.S., the UK, and Germany. The ODA/GNI ratio based on net disbursements was 0.21%, ranking 19th among member states of the DAC.

B Approaches to Major Regions

(A) Southeast and Southwest Asia

The peace, stability, and prosperity in the

³ The main forms of ODA from Japan are: grant aid, namely, bilateral fund donations; loan aid for development in developing regions; technical cooperation; donations or contributions to international organizations. Of these, loan aid for development accounts for the largest percentage. Loan aid for development is typically repaid with interest.

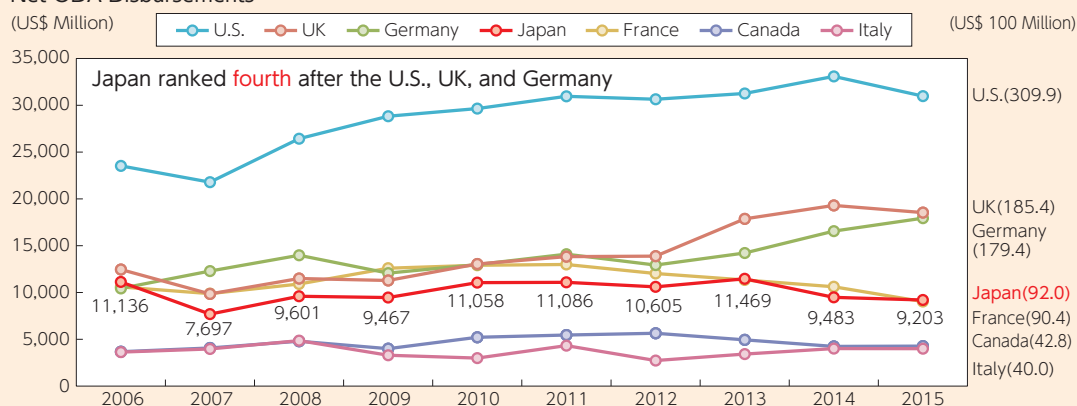
Southeast Asian region are important to Japan, which has a close relationship with the region. Japan has created momentum toward solutions for various development issues including poverty reduction, by promoting economic development and human security in the region through development cooperation, and also contributed to the development of the region.

Approximately 52.8% of the total bilateral ODA of Japan went to this region in 2015. A large portion of it is support for ASEAN countries. Considering that support for infrastructure building and training of

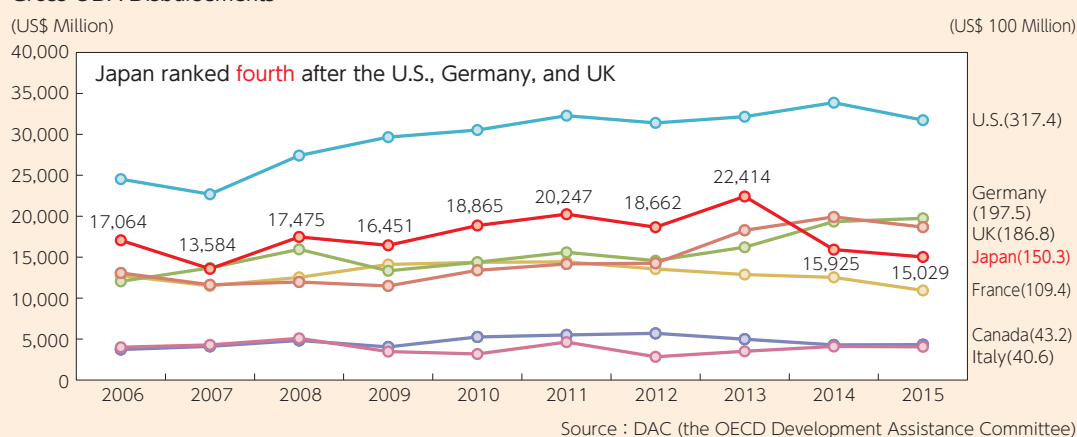
industrial human resources to strengthen regional connectivity and industrial foundation development are essential to sustainable growth in the region, Japan is implementing quality infrastructure development in various countries in the region, as well as providing steady support for the development of human resources for industries in the region based on the Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative, which aims to develop 40,000 industrial human resources in the next three years. In light of the fact that the countries of ASEAN are located along Japan's sea lanes, and that the region

Recent Trend of ODA by Major Donors

Net ODA Disbursements



Gross ODA Disbursements



Source : DAC (the OECD Development Assistance Committee)

is an important one for regional security, Japan is steadily providing support in the area of maritime safety through ODA, including the provision of patrol boats and the related equipment, and human resource development. In addition to these efforts, Japan is also providing support to eradicate domestic disparity as well as in the region, and for the creation of a sustainable society in areas including disaster risk reduction, environment and climate change, and energy. At the same time, Japan has announced at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting held in September 2016 that it will be contributing 45 billion yen in support and developing human resources of 2,000 people over the next three years toward the realization of Asia that is resilient against terrorism. Japan is also working proactively to tackle new challenges.

In the Mekong region, in accordance with the New Tokyo Strategy 2015 for Mekong-Japan Cooperation adopted at the Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting in July 2015, Japan announced that it will be providing steady support through 750 billion yen in ODA funding over the next three years. Under the new Japan-Mekong Connectivity Initiative launched at the Mekong-Japan Foreign Minister's Meeting held in July 2016, Japan will also support the realization of "vibrant and effective connectivity" through further infrastructure development, systemic improvements, and development of the surrounding areas in the region.

By providing such assistance, Japan aims to provide strong support to the ASEAN Community established in December 2015.

The economy has developed in Southwest Asia, but many issues such as undeveloped infrastructure and poverty

still remain unsolved. While also keeping in mind improving the investment environment for Japanese companies and human security, Japan provides a range of assistance through ODA to assist the region in overcoming these challenges.

With regard to Sri Lanka, Prime Minister Abe declared at the Japan-Sri Lanka Summit Meeting held in May that Japan will strengthen its cooperative relationship with Sri Lanka under the "Expanded Partnership for Quality Infrastructure" and develop the Port of Colombo and its surrounding areas through joint public-private efforts.

With regard to India, at the Summit Meeting held in November, the steady progress of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Railway Project was noted. Prime Minister Modi also expressed his gratitude to Japan for the important contributions that Japan's ODA has made toward the development and modernization of infrastructure in India.

(B) Central Asia

The Central Asia and the Caucasus are geopolitically important areas surrounded by Russia, China, South Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. Its stability and development are important for all in the whole Eurasia, including Japan. Japan supports the "open, stable, and independent" development of Central Asia, and upholds the ideal of Japanese diplomacy that contributes to peace and stability in the region and around the world. Japan supports nation building that allows universal values such as human rights, democracy, market economy, and the rule of law to take root for long-term stability and sustainable development in this region with broad-based views covering neighboring regions including Afghanistan

and Pakistan in mind.

In 2016, as a follow-up to Prime Minister Abe's visit to Central Asia in the previous year, Japan engaged in cooperation in areas such as infrastructure development, health and medical care, border control, and anti-narcotics measures. It also strengthened cooperation in the area of human resource development, including support for highly skilled industrial human resource development by using Japanese style engineering education such as colleges of technology, expansion of the program for young government officials' study in Japan as well as the launch of new cooperative projects for Japan Centers. In-depth discussions were also held about cooperation in the areas of transportation and logistics, a new topic on cooperation in the "Central Asia+Japan" Dialogue.

(C) Central and South America

Central and South America has enjoyed friendly relations with Japan for a long time and have deep historical ties with Japan, as demonstrated by the fact that about 2.13 million Japanese descendants, Nikkei, reside in the region. The region is a major supplier of resources and food, as well as a potential new market with gross regional production amounting to approximately 5 trillion US dollars. On the other hand, many countries in the region are confronted by problems such as domestic income disparity and poverty in the agricultural and mountainous regions. Central and South America is also highly vulnerable to natural disasters and it is becoming increasingly challenging to tackle problems in the areas of environment/climate change and disaster risk reduction. Japan is engaged in various cooperative efforts while also taking into



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Kikawada visiting the Centro Paraguayo Japonesa, built and maintained through grant aid from Japan (May 6, Paraguay).

account the characteristics of each country in the Central and South America region.

In April, President Varela of Panama visited Japan, and the two governments signed an Exchange of Note concerning the "Panama Metropolitan Area Urban Transportation Line-3 Development Project" with the aim of contributing to sustainable economic growth in Panama. In September, Prime Minister Abe became the first Prime Minister of Japan to visit Cuba, where he stated Japan will promote economic cooperation in a substantive manner through the provision of grant aid, etc., and establish a local office of the JICA as well as other initiatives. In November, Prime Minister Abe visited Peru and Argentina. He announced continued support in the areas of environment and disaster risk reduction for Peru, and assistance for small and medium-sized enterprises for Argentina.

(D) The Middle East

Securing peace and stability in the Middle East and North Africa regions, which are geopolitically important and important for energy security, is crucial not only for the stability of Japan but also of the world. From these standpoints, Japan

has proactively provided support for these regions to achieve peace and stability.

Taking the opportunity at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in May, Japan announced that it will provide support amounting to approximately 6 billion US dollars over the next three years, including support for human resource development for about 20,000 people. The objective is to build a “tolerant and stable society” in the Middle East while stemming the growth of violent extremism based on the stance that “the best way is to go is in the middle.” From the perspective of developing human resources capable of taking leadership roles in the reconstruction of Syria in the future, Japan announced that it will accept up to 150 Syrian students over the next five years.

At the United Nations Security Council High-level Briefing held during the UN General Assembly in September, Japan announced its intention to provide support amounting to about 1.13 billion US dollars during 2016 to assist refugees and displaced persons in Syria, Iraq, and the surrounding countries. Furthermore, at the “United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants” and the “Leaders’ Summit on Refugees” hosted by President Obama of the U.S., Japan announced that approximately 2.8 billion US dollars in total will be provided for humanitarian and self-reliance assistance to refugees and migrants and to host countries and communities during the three years from 2016, as well as support amounting to approximately 100 million US dollars to the World Bank’s Global Crisis Response Platform.

Furthermore, Japan and the international community are providing support in nation-building, toward the stability and

self-reliance of Afghanistan in order to prevent it from stepping back into a hotbed of terrorism. At the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan, participating countries and organizations pledged support of a total of 15.2 billion US dollars. Japan announced its intention to continue its assistance worth up to 40 billion yen per year for four years from 2017 to 2020, based on the principle of mutual accountability whereby the ability of the Afghanistan government to produce results on its commitment toward reform hinges on the continued support of the international community.

(E) Africa

Africa has achieved a significant economic growth thanks to abundant natural resources and a rapidly growing population. As a potential market, it is attracting the attention and anticipation of the international community. Since 1993, Japan has worked with African countries as well as supporting countries and organizations to tackle Africa’s development issues through the processes of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), and continued to provide support toward the realization of economic growth in Africa. TICAD processes further strengthen relations between Japan and Africa and serve as a forum for discussing the further development of Africa while respecting the ownership of the African countries. For these reasons, the TICAD framework has been highly appraised by the countries of Africa. Initially held once every five years, it became an event held once every three years after the 5th session in 2013. TICAD VI was held in August 2016 and was the first TICAD meeting to be convened in

Africa, in Nairobi, Kenya (see Special Feature “TICAD VI ~ The Private Sector’s Interest in Africa”).

TICAD VI welcomed the participation of delegates from 53 countries in Africa, including ministerial-level delegates as well as delegates from development partner countries, countries in Asia, international organizations, regional organizations, the private sector, and NGO representatives. Active discussions were held on: (1) Economic diversification and industrialization; (2) Promoting resilient health systems; and (3) Promoting social stability. As a result, the Nairobi Declaration was adopted with these three priority areas as the pillars of the declaration. Prime Minister Abe, who co-chaired the summit, said in his keynote speech that in the three years between 2016 and 2018, Japan will invest in the future of Africa with 30 billion US dollars from the public and private sectors combined. In line with the three priority areas outlined in the Nairobi Declaration, this investment will be injected into initiatives such as the human resource development for approximately 10 million people by harnessing Japan’s strength of possessing “high-quality”, developing quality infrastructure and promoting resilient health systems as well building the foundations for peace and stability.

The next TICAD, which will be TICAD VII, is scheduled to be held in Japan in 2019. Going forward, Japan will harness its strengths to provide steady support in areas such as economic growth that incorporates private-sector investment, development, and the promotion of social stability. At the same time, Japan will build mutually beneficial relationships with the countries of Africa and will continue to contribute to

the realization of Africa’s “quality growth” through cooperation between the public and private sectors.

(3) Approaches to Appropriate and Effective Implementation of ODA

A Approaches to Appropriate Implementation of ODA

In the implementation of ODA, efforts are made to enhance transparency by exchanging external experts at each phase and formulating projects based on these discussions. In the phase of preliminary studies in the implementation of ODA, the Development Project Accountability Committee has held open sessions and decides whether studies should be implemented based on reviews and discussions conducted with external experts. Furthermore, after the implementation of the project, the JICA publishes on its website the ex-post evaluation results for all projects valued at 200 million yen or more, while ex-post evaluations are also conducted by third parties for projects valued at 1 billion yen or more. The matters pointed out in such ex-post evaluations are applied to the formulation of future ODA projects.

B Approaches to Effective Implementation of ODA

ODA is implemented through three frameworks corresponding to the needs of the partner country and the scale of the project: grant aid, loan aid, and technical cooperation. In order to utilize the limited budget efficiently and achieve a high level of development, the MOFA and the JICA take into account the needs of the partner country, establish priority areas of cooperation for each country, and

formulate projects that contribute to these areas while going beyond the boundaries of each framework. For example, in the landlocked country of Rwanda, the high costs of transportation when passing through the land to enter the ocean poses a significant challenge. For that reason, Japan has offered grant aid to construct new bridges and facilities (One-Stop Border Post: OSBP) to facilitate border procedures at the border between Rwanda and Tanzania and has provided support to improve the operational capability of the OSBP facility through technical cooperation. To further promote such initiatives, Japan decided in July to provide support, through loan aid, for repairing and extending the roads that connect Rwanda to the Tanzania border.

Japan also contributes to the creation of international frameworks for effective ODA implementation. The Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) exists as a framework that various development entities participate in with the aim of enabling the international community to work as one toward improving the effectiveness of development cooperation for developing countries. These entities are not limited to developed and developing countries, but also include civil society, the private sector and so on. Japan has been serving on the Steering Committee of the GPEDC since September 2015. At the 2nd High-level Meeting of the GPEDC in November 2016, Japan introduced its initiatives in the areas that are its strengths, such as triangular cooperation, and these initiatives were highly appraised by other participants.

C Efforts toward Promotion of Information Disclosure and Improvement Development of Cooperation Quality

The understanding and support from Japanese citizens is essential for the implementation of development cooperation. Therefore, efforts are made for effective communication and higher quality of development cooperation to enhance their understanding of ODA. Various PR events took place aiming to reach out to a wide range of people. Specifically, participatory type events such as “Global Festa Japan 2016,” Japan’s largest event for international cooperation, in Odaiba, Tokyo, in October, and “One World Festival” in Osaka City in February were held. In addition to these, a TV publicity program (If I Change, the Future will Change: Search for the Treasures of Japan that Have Travelled Across the Seas!) was broadcasted to present some examples of international cooperation activities conducted by Japan all over the world, and to explain the meaning of development cooperation for Japan in an easy-to-understand manner, based on the reports from ODA sites in developing countries. Also, efforts are continuously made to deliver information on development cooperation through the ODA website. Furthermore, based on the Development Cooperation Charter, which declares enhanced efforts for overseas publicity, Japan plans tours to its development cooperation project sites for the local media so that they will cover Japan’s cooperation, and prepares PR pamphlets in English and local languages.

In order to raise the quality of ODA, it is necessary to apply knowledge and know-how gained from ODA evaluations

to subsequent policy planning and project implementation. MOFA carries out evaluations by external experts at a policy and program level, and the results are shared and used by relevant parties. Also, from the viewpoint of improving transparency of the JICA's projects, the JICA publicizes their current status and achievements on the "Visible ODA" section of its website. As of the end of December 2016, a total of 3,724 projects are listed on this site.

2 Response to Global Issues

(1) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda)" is a set of international development goals to be achieved by 2030, which was adopted by the UN summit in September 2015 as a successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The 2030 Agenda lists the "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" consisting of 17 goals and 169 targets that are interrelated and closely linked to each other, and which serve as development goals for the whole of the international community including developed countries. Japan has consistently and proactively contributed to discussions and negotiations for the 2030 Agenda even before full-fledged discussions got underway in the international community. At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit, held under Japan's G7 Presidency, the commitment toward achieving the SDGs was affirmed as a priority issue in development cooperation. In May, with the aim of exerting leadership as the chair of the summit, Japan decided to establish the SDGs Promotion Headquarters headed by the Prime Minister and composed

of all Cabinet Ministers as members, and to formulate its guiding principles toward the implementation of the SDGs. While advancing on the formulation of the guiding principles, SDGs Promotion Round Table Meetings were held in September and November, bringing together a wide range of stakeholders from NGOs, academia, private sector, and international organizations to exchange their views. Public comments were also solicited. As a result, the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles, comprising the text of the guiding principles and an appendix, was adopted at the Second Meeting of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters held in December. These Guiding Principles set forth the vision to "Become a leader toward a future where economic, social and environmental improvements are attained in an integrated, sustainable and resilient manner while leaving no one behind," and prescribe five implementation principles and contents for follow-up action. As pillars for initiatives aimed at the achievement of the vision, the document points out the SDG areas that Japan should put particular effort into, and lists eight priority issues drawn up by reconstructing the contents of the SDGs to correspond to the Japanese context. The appendix consists of 140 domestic and foreign policies submitted by the relevant ministries and agencies as concrete measures to be promoted for each of the eight priority issues. Under these Implementation Guiding Principles, Japan will work in cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders, and continue to take the lead in global efforts to achieve the SDGs.

A Human Security

Human security is a concept aiming at

creating a community in which people can fully develop their potential through protecting all individuals, and at the same time empowering them to solve their own problems. Japan identifies human security as one of its diplomatic pillars and has been working on dissemination and implementation of this notion through discussions at the United Nations, the use of the UN Human Security Trust Fund established by Japan's initiatives, and also Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects. The 2030 Agenda also reflects the notion of human security as its core value such as "people-centered" and "leave no one behind" and its core reflects the concept of human security.

B Approaches in the Area of Disaster Risk Reduction

In the area of disaster risk reduction, 200 million people are affected by disasters every year (90% of the victims are citizens of developing countries) and the annual average loss incurred by natural disasters is over 100 billion US dollars. Disaster risk reduction is essential for realizing poverty eradication and sustainable development.

Japan, having experienced many disasters, hosted the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai in March 2015, and took the lead in the adoption of the "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction," a guideline for efforts by the international community in disaster risk reduction that covers 15 years from 2015. Japan is also actively involved in cooperation in the area of disaster risk reduction, announcing the "Sendai Cooperation Initiative for Disaster Risk Reduction" as an independent contribution from Japan, and declaring the provision

of cooperation amounting to 4 billion US dollars over the next four years from 2015 to 2018 and the development of about 40,000 human resources in total.

Coinciding with the World Tsunami Awareness Day (November 5), proposed by Japan and enacted at the 70th UN General Assembly held in December 2015, Japan took the lead in organizing various conferences and evacuation drills in 2016 to raise awareness about tsunami in countries around the world; in November, the High School Students Summit on "World Tsunami Awareness Day" in Kuroshio was held in Kuroshio, Kochi Prefecture. About 360 high school students from 30 countries including Japan participated in this Summit, where they learned about the history of tsunami in Japan, as well as its disaster readiness and mitigation efforts, delivered presentations about future issues and initiatives in their own countries, and adopted the "Kuroshio Declaration" as the outcome document of the Summit.

Going forward, Japan plans to share the experience and lessons obtained from past disasters with the world, and continue to promote the "mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction" to have every country incorporate disaster risk reduction in its policies.

C Approaches in the Area of Education

In the area of education, Japan announced "Learning Strategy for Peace and Growth," a new strategy for Japan's international cooperation on education, in line with the timing for the adoption of the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" in September 2015. The new strategy specifies "educational cooperation to achieve inclusive, equitable and quality

**Special
Feature****Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
~ Cooperation with a Wide Range of stakeholders ~

The SDGs were adopted unanimously at the UN Sustainable Development Summit held in September 2015. They set out 17 goals and 169 targets to be achieved by 2030 for the entire international community including developed countries. The SDGs build on the targets established under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which include poverty, hunger, health, education, gender, and water and hygiene. In addition to further promoting these goals, the SDGs also incorporate goals that were not clearly set out in the MDGs, including economic growth, infrastructure, and climate change measures. As the SDGs are comprehensive and cover a broad scope, cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders (private-enterprises, NGOs, academia, etc.) is vital in order to achieve them.

To that end, the Government of Japan has engaged in exchanges of opinions with the people from diverse fields as part of its process of formulating the “SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles,” which is a set of guidelines for Japan’s initiatives. Specifically, the SDGs Promotion Round Table Meeting was established under the umbrella of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters in September 2016. This Round Table Meeting brings together relevant parties from the government, NGOs, NPOs, experts, private sectors, international organizations, and various organizations to exchange their opinions, with the aim of cooperating with a wide range of stakeholders to promote Japan’s initiatives toward achieving the SDGs. The first meeting was held in September 2016, and the second meeting in November of the same year, as members engaged in discussions toward the formulation of the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles. The basic framework of the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles was established based on discussions held during the first meeting, and public comments were solicited from the general public in October, between the two meetings. Taking into account the diverse views and feedback received through this process, the final SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles were adopted by the SDGs Promotion Headquarters in December.

A joint press conference was held on the day of the launch of the Guiding Principles. This was hosted by the Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs, an organization established by civil society such as NGOs and NPOs to promote the SDGs. This press conference was attended by members of the Round Table Meeting and government representatives, who welcomed the formulation of the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles and declared their resolve toward the implementation of the SDGs. Under the Guiding Principles, the Government of Japan will strengthen cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders toward the realization of “a society where no one is left behind,” and promote the steady implementation of the SDGs.



Second SDGs Promotion Round Table Meeting (November 11, Tokyo, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)



Joint press conference of the Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs (December 22, Tokyo, Japan National Press Club)

learning,” “educational cooperation for industrial, science and technology human resource development and sustainable socio economic development,” and “establishment and expansion of global and regional networks for educational cooperation” as guiding principles. Based on these guiding principles, Japan is providing various forms of educational support in countries around the world. It is also an active participant in education support-related fora including the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).

D Approaches in Agricultural Areas

In coordination with the relevant countries, such as G7 or G20 member states and international organizations, Japan has delivered assistance for agriculture and rural development in developing countries. In April, Japan hosted the G7 Niigata Agriculture Ministers’ Meeting. At this Meeting, the “Niigata Declaration,” which seeks to strengthen global food security, was adopted and issued.

E Approaches in the Area of Water

Japan has continuously been the largest donor in the area of water since the 1990’s and has implemented high quality assistance utilizing Japan’s experiences,

expertise, and technologies. Japan proactively participates in discussions in the international community, and tackles global issues in the area of water based on its contributions to date.

(2) Global Health

Overcoming health issues that threaten lives and hinder all kinds of social, cultural and economic activities is a common global challenge directly linked with human security. Japan has advocated human security, which underlines the “Proactive Contribution to Peace” and has acted in support of that principle. Japan regards health as its indispensable element. Japan has achieved the world’s highest healthy life expectancy and is further expected to play a proactive role in the area of health. Japan aims to realize the international community that enhances the people’s health as well as ensures the right to health through assisting the area of global health.

Under this principle, Japan has achieved remarkable results in overcoming health issues such as infectious diseases outbreak, maternal and child health and nutrition improvements through cooperation with a number of countries and various international organizations, including the World Health Organization (WHO), the



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Hamachi delivering a speech on behalf of the Government of Japan at the UN High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS (June 9, New York, U.S.)

World Bank, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Particularly in 2016, Japan exerted its leadership and took the lead in discussions with a view to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) that ensures affordable access to basic health services for all whenever they need them throughout their lives based on the Basic Design for Peace and Health formulated in 2015 as its Global Health policy under the Development Cooperation Charter.

At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in May, Japan led discussions as the presidency and health was a major issue covered in the G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration. An agreement was reached on the following three areas: (1) Strengthening response capability to public health emergencies such as infectious diseases outbreak; (2) Promoting UHC that contributes to responding health emergencies; and (3) Strengthening response to antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health was issued with respect to these areas. As part of the concrete contributions from Japan, Prime Minister

Abe also declared a policy to provide support of approximately 1.1 billion US dollars for global health institutions, with the aim of enabling response to public health emergencies and infectious disease countermeasures, and strengthening health systems toward the achievement of UHC. Moreover, a government delegation led by Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Hamachi participated in the United Nations HIV/AIDS High-Level Meeting held in June, introducing the outcomes of the Summit and reaffirming Japan's resolve to contribute further in the area of global health.

Health was prioritized issue at the TICAD VI meeting held in August, while the Nairobi Declaration set forth agreement on strengthening response to public health crises and promoting UHC, which contributes to the prevention/preparation for crises and promoting resilient health systems for quality of life. Further to this, with regard to the contributions of about 1.1 billion US dollars declared by Prime Minister Abe at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit, Japan indicated more than 500 million US dollars will be provided to Africa through the Global Fund, Gavi, and other mechanisms, thereby increasing the number of lives saved to more than about 300,000, the number of experts and policymakers developed for their capacity to counter infectious diseases to about 20,000, and the number of people who are able to access basic health services to about 2 million.

(3) Environmental Issues and Climate Change

A Global Environmental Issues

Japan is fully engaged in addressing the depletion of natural resources and the

destruction of the natural environment with a view to realizing sustainable development through its active participation in multilateral environmental agreements, as well as various international conferences and fora focused on environmental matters. The importance of these initiatives is increasingly recognized worldwide, as shown from the fact that environmental targets were clearly outlined in the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” adopted in 2015.

(A) Conservation of Biodiversity

From September to October, the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was held in Johannesburg, South Africa. At this meeting, it was recommended to take necessary measures to close the domestic



Closing Ceremony of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (October 4, Johannesburg, South Africa)



13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (December 4-17, Cancun, Mexico)

market for ivory that is contributing to poaching or illegal trade. Decisions were also made on matters such as the listing of sharks and rays as species subject to trade regulations in the CITES appendices. In November, the Hanoi Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade was held in Vietnam, which resulted in the issuance of a statement by the participating countries emphasizing the importance of taking concrete actions to fight against illegal wildlife trade.

In December, the 13th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP13) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held in Cancun, Mexico. Discussions were held on various issues related to biodiversity, including the progress and status toward the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets adopted at COP10 in 2010, and mainstreaming biodiversity in sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fishery, and tourism, into the mainstream.

In September, the 6th World Conservation Congress (WCC6), the highest decision-making body of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), which meets once every four years, was held in Honolulu, the United States. Decisions were made on the IUCN programme, and various resolutions and recommendations were adopted at this Congress.

(B) Conservation of Forests

In November, at the 52nd Council of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), discussions were held on global efforts for sustainable forest management.

(C) International Management of Hazardous Chemicals/Hazardous Waste

As for the Minamata Convention on

Mercury (adopted in October 2013), relevant countries are continuing discussions towards its entry into force (35 countries became Parties as of the end of 2016). Japan concluded the Convention in February.

In October, the 28th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was held in Kigali, Rwanda. At this Meeting, an amendment to add hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) to the controlled substances under the protocol was adopted. HFCs were developed as the alternatives to chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), and contribute to global warming while they do not deplete the ozone layer.

(D) Protection of the Marine Environment

At the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the London Convention (Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter) held in September, discussions were held on matters including strategic plans and the prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes.

With regard to the conservation of the marine environment of the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea, the 21st Intergovernmental Meeting for the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP), which involves cooperation among Japan, China, South Korea, and Russia, was held in Seoul, South Korea, in October.

At the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held in May, hosted by Japan, leaders reaffirmed to tackle the problem of marine litter under the section on Resource Efficiency and the 3Rs in the Leaders' Declaration.

B Climate Change

(A) Entry into force of the Paris

Agreement, and the 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP22)

A concerted effort by the international community is essential in reducing greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming; however, the Kyoto Protocol adopted at the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP3) in 1997 required only developed countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As a result of active negotiations spanning several years, including the “Durban Agreement” of 2011⁴, the Paris Agreement was adopted at COP21 held in Paris in December 2015. The Paris Agreement is a fair and effective framework that does not distinguish between developed and developing countries, implementing initiatives toward the achievement of targets established independently and submitted by countries with the aim of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. During this negotiation process, Japan contributed actively to making concrete proposals on system design, and to the agreement and adoption processes. It also provided a strong boost toward the conclusion of the agreement toward Prime Minister Abe's declaration to provide approximately 1.3 trillion yen of support to developing countries in 2020.

After the adoption of the Agreement, the focus shifted toward the early entry into force of the Paris Agreement. Partly as a result of the heightened momentum

⁴ Contents included (1) Agreement on a new legal framework for all countries to participate by the year 2015; (2) The entry into force of the same framework from 2020. Decided on at COP17.



22nd Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (November 7-18, Marrakech, Morocco. Photo: UNFCCC)

in the international community with the simultaneous ratification of the Agreement by the United States and China in September 2016, the criteria for Agreement to come into force was met (55 or more parties to the Agreement, and total emissions of 55% or more for these countries as a percentage of the total emissions for the international community as a whole), and the Paris Agreement came into force on November 4. Japan has also worked to build the momentum toward the entry into force of the Paris Agreement, including the issuance of the Leaders' Declaration at the G7 Ise-Shima Summit held under the Presidency of Japan in May, which established the goal of ensuring the entry into force of the Paris Agreement in 2016. Japan ratified the Agreement on November 8.

At COP22 held in Marrakech, Morocco, in November 2016, and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA1), the attention was placed on how to proceed with the formulation of the relevant guidelines of the Agreement, as part of the process after the entering into force of the Paris Agreement. In this respect, Japan approached negotiations with its focus placed on the following two points: (1) Regardless of whether a country

has ratified the Agreement, through the continued participation of all countries in the review of the relevant guidelines, all countries should take ownership over the guiding principles that are drawn up; (2) The progress of discussions concerning the future direction of the relevant guidelines of the Paris Agreement. In particular, Japan asserted that the relevant guidelines should be drawn up by 2018 in order to provide clarity for future processes, and that a concrete plan for processes should be formulated by the next meeting to be held in May 2017. As a result of two-week long discussions among the related countries, the following two decisions were reached, among others: (1) To engage in negotiations on the formulation of the relevant guidelines for the Paris Agreement with the continued participation of all countries going forward; (2) After the convention of relevant meetings in 2017 and confirmation of the progress status of work on the formulation of the relevant guidelines, the final implementation guiding principles shall be adopted by 2018. In this way, an agreement was reached on the specific timeline for the formulation of the relevant guidelines, with Japan's assertions incorporated. This represented a significant achievement on climate change negotiations in 2016. The strengthening of initiatives by various entities was also an important point raised at this COP, and an event was held with the aim of strengthening actions by non-governmental bodies including local governments and corporations. Going forward, Japan will continue to work closely with the relevant countries to enhance the effectiveness of the Paris Agreement, while engaging actively in the relevant negotiations.

(B) Approach on Support for Developing Countries

As many developing countries are unable to adequately implement climate change policies with solely their own funds and implementation capabilities, developed countries including Japan are promoting initiatives to provide active support for developing countries.

As a part of these initiatives, in 2009, developed countries made a commitment to mobilize 100 billion US dollars from the public and private sectors combined by the year 2020 (Copenhagen Accord). In connection with this, at a prior meeting held in October 2016 ahead of COP22, developed countries announced the “Roadmap to 100 billion dollars” initiative. This is an initiative led by developed countries to clarify the path toward the realization of plans to mobilize 100 billion US dollars in funds, and was welcomed by the international community, including developing countries, at the related negotiations, including COP22.

The Green Climate fund (GCF) also plays an important role as a multilateral fund that provides support to developing countries for adapting to the impact of greenhouse gas emission reductions and climate change. Japan contributes funds to the GCF based on the Act on Contribution to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Accompanying Measures enacted in 2015, and participates actively in the management of the Fund as a board member of GCF, including the selection of projects to provide support to. As of December 2016, the GCF Board has approved 35 projects to support.

(C) Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

The JCM is a mechanism to appropriately

evaluate contributions from Japan to GHG emission reductions or removals in a quantitative manner and use them to achieve Japan's emission reduction target through the diffusion of low carbon technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure as well as implementation of mitigation actions in developing countries. To date, Japan has established the JCM mechanism with 16 partner countries. In 2016, the initiative has steadily produced results, with the issuance of credits from projects in Indonesia (May), Mongolia (September), and Palau (December).

(D) Other Initiatives by Japan

In October, the Seminar for Capacity Development for Transparency to Implement the Paris Agreement was held for six countries in Asia and members of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat. During this Seminar, participants shared their recognition on the capacity support needed to report on the status of achievement of nationally determined contributions (NDC) for emissions reduction, which is important in encouraging developing countries to reduce emissions. In January 2017, G7 officials from each country and experts from Japan and abroad were invited to an experts' meeting and working group on climate change and vulnerability, where they deepened their awareness on the security implications of the climate change issues that have drawn attention lately.

The 14th Informal Meeting on Further Actions Against Climate Change held in Tokyo in February 2016 was the first meeting that brought together negotiators from major countries after the adoption of

the Paris Agreement, the new international framework for climate change measures. This Meeting saw the lively exchange of views toward the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

(E) Initiatives Related to Climate Change Measures in the Field of International Aviation

With regard to greenhouse gas emissions reduction in the field of international aviation, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has established a global reduction target of improving fuel efficiency by 2% every year, and not increasing total emissions after 2020. To achieve this goal, ICAO has conducted discussions on the introduction of new technologies, improved aircraft operation methods, utilized alternative fuels as well as the establishment of global market-based measures (GMBM). Within this context, a resolution that prescribes the contents of GMBM was adopted unanimously at the 39th Assembly of ICAO in October 2016 held in Montreal. In particular, this triggered the process of greenhouse gas emissions reduction through the purchase of emission credits with effect from 2021 for countries voluntarily participating in the program including Japan. In addition, starting from 2027, all countries will participate in the system, with the exception of countries that generate emissions below a certain level. Japan will continue to contribute actively to reviews by ICAO on the details of the GMBM, and work on taking the necessary steps toward the start of operations.

(4) Arctic and Antarctic

A Arctic

(A) Current situation in the Arctic and Japan's View

Environmental changes in the Arctic, caused by global warming (melting of sea ice, permafrost, ice sheet and glaciers, etc.), have brought about new opportunities to the international community, such as utilization of the Arctic Sea Routes and resource development. On the other hand, it has also posed various challenges, such as the acceleration of global warming, its negative impacts on the vulnerable environment of the Arctic, and potential changes in the international security environment, resulting in mounting attention by the international community.

In dealing with these opportunities and challenges over the Arctic, based on a wide range of international cooperation, we have to work out necessary measures through grasping actual condition of environmental changes in the Arctic and its impact on the global environment, as well as precisely predicting further changes. In addition, it is necessary for us to reach a common understanding on appropriate manners of economic use of the Arctic. As a prerequisite for that, actions based on the rule of law must be ensured, which can be seen in dealing with territorial disputes and maritime delimitation issues in the Arctic. In October 2015, Japan adopted its first comprehensive Arctic Policy. Based on this policy, Japan will contribute to the international community as a main player in addressing Arctic issues, especially by making full use of Japan's strength in science and technology.

**Special
Feature****Post-COP21 Climate Change Negotiations
~ Entering into Force of the Paris Agreement, COP22 ~**

At the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP21) held in December 2015, the Paris Agreement was adopted as a new framework to replace the Kyoto Protocol, which had only imposed the responsibility of reducing emissions on developed countries. The Paris Agreement is the first framework in history that does not distinguish between developed and developing countries; rather, this fair and effective framework allows countries to submit their Nationally Determined Contributions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and to implement initiatives toward the achievement of these targets. In 2016, the Paris Agreement came into force less than one year from its adoption. The year continues to be a dynamic one for climate change negotiations, with the work schedule for the steady implementation of the Paris Agreement to be decided on at COP22.



Ambassador Hiroshi Minami, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, submitting the instruments of acceptance for the Paris Agreement to the UN representative (November 8, New York, United States (UN Headquarters))

Entering into force of the Paris Agreement

After the adoption of the Paris Agreement, the international community has continued to move ahead with the aim of making the transition into the implementation of the Agreement as soon as possible. At the signing ceremony of the Agreement held at the UN Headquarters in New York in April 2016, as many as 175 countries and regions, which form the majority of the parties to the UNFCCC, signed the Paris Agreement at the same time that the document was released to the public. This was a unanimous declaration by the international community of its will and resolve. On September 3, the United States and China ratified the Agreement by submitting the signed document at the same time, thereby accelerating the move toward the early entering into force of the Agreement. They were followed by India, the EU (some EU member states ratified the Agreement ahead of others) and other countries successively. As a result, 55 countries, which make up 55% of the total volume of emissions in the world, ratified the Agreement, fulfilling the criteria for it to come into force. Hence, the Paris Agreement came into force on November 4, earlier than the international community had initially predicted.

COP22

At the 22nd Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP22) (November 7–18, Marrakech Morocco), the focus was placed on achieving an agreement on the schedule for negotiations of the relevant guidelines for the Agreement, which is the key

for the steady implementation of the Paris Agreement in the future. As a result of the negotiations, the COP yielded positive outcomes, including the decision to establish 2018 as the deadline for the adoption of the relevant guidelines. In response to news coming immediately after the opening of the conference that Mr. Trump had been elected as the President of the United States, there was growing concern among the relevant countries about the climate change policies of the next U.S. administration that will be inaugurated in the following year (2017). The conference also served as an opportunity for affirming the unity of the international community. Discussions on the implementation of the Paris Agreement moved forward steadily, and many of the participating countries expressed that steps should be taken toward the resolution of the climate change issue through international cooperation going forward.

Future outlook

In light of the Paris Agreement coming into force in 2016 and the agreement on the work schedule thereafter, climate change negotiations towards the 2018 deadline will move forward on many points at issue, including detailed regulations related to the implementation of actions by each country to reduce emissions. While the big picture for policies of the Trump administration related to the climate change issue, including handling of the Paris Agreement may not necessarily be clear at this point in time, tackling the climate change issue remains a global issue that the entire international community should approach together. Japan is of the view that active involvement by the U.S. is also important, and continues to closely observe the impact that policies put in place by the Trump administration will have on the climate change issue. On top of that, to ensure that each country establish systems that clarify the country's actions to reduce emissions in a way that is highly transparent, Japan will take an active approach toward future negotiations while working closely with the relevant countries.

(B) Active participation in international initiatives on the Arctic

In the area of international initiatives concerning the Arctic, Japan will (1) actively participate in addressing global issues on the Arctic and in international rule-making process over the Arctic; (2) further contribute to the activities of the Arctic Council (AC: An intergovernmental forum led by Arctic states); and (3) expand bilateral and multilateral cooperation with the Arctic and other countries.

As a part of these efforts, Japan was formally admitted as an observer in AC

in May 2013. Since then, Japan has been contributing to activities of the AC through actively participating in discussions by dispatching government officials and experts to related meetings such as the Senior Arctic Official (SAO) meeting, working groups and task forces. Toward further contribution to the AC, Japan will strive to actively participate in discussions on expanding the role of observers, as well as engage in policy dialogues with the AC chair, member states and others.

With a view to demonstrating Japan's efforts on the Arctic, Ambassador in charge

of Arctic Affairs, Kazuko Shiraishi actively participated in various international forums on the Arctic held in such countries as Russia, the U.S., and Iceland, and exchanged views on the Arctic with countries concerned including the Arctic states.

In April, the Trilateral High-Level Dialogue on the Arctic among Japan, China and the ROK was held for the first time with the participants of government officials from the three countries as well as experts from relevant research institutions. In this dialogue, the three countries exchanged views on such topics as the possibility of future trilateral cooperation on the Arctic.

In November, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs invited the Ambassador for Arctic Affairs of Finland, which was appointed as the chair country of the AC for two years from 2017, to Japan. Taking this opportunity, he visited Japanese research facilities on the Arctic and exchanged views with a diverse group of people from industries, government and academia including Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takei and the Parliamentary League of Arctic Frontier Study. This invitational program promoted his understanding of Japan's initiatives and strengths on Arctic issues, and showed Finland, the next AC chair, Japan's ability to make further contribution to the activities of the AC.

B Antarctic

(A) The Antarctic Treaty

The Antarctic Treaty adopted in 1959 sets forth the following three basic principles: (1) the use of the Antarctica for peaceful purposes, (2) freedom of scientific investigations and international cooperation, and (3) a freeze on territorial rights and claims.

(B) The Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) and the protection of Antarctic environment

The 39th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 39) was held in Santiago, Chile, from May to June. At this meeting, discussions were held on topics including environmental conservation and observation of the Antarctic, prohibition of mineral resource activities, and Antarctic tourism, taking into account the growing diversification of activities in the Antarctic. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, a symposium was also held in conjunction with this meeting.

(C) Japan's Antarctic observation

Based on the 9th six-year plan of the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (2016–2021), Japan is undertaking to reveal the roles and impacts of the Antarctic on the global system of the past, current, and future; particularly through long-term continuous observation for investigating the actual state and mechanism of global warming, as well as through the implementation of various research and observation activities, using large aperture atmospheric radar, etc.

3 Science and Technology Diplomacy

Prof. Teruo Kishi, who was appointed as Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs by Foreign Minister Kishida in September 2015, supports the activities of the Foreign Minister from the perspective of science and technology, and provides advice on

the utilization of science and technology in the planning and coordination of various foreign policies to the Minister and relevant divisions. He also takes part in public relations activities concerning Japan's science and technology diplomacy, while strengthening partnerships with Japanese and foreign stakeholders in the fields of science and technology.

Three sessions of the Advisory Board for the Promotion of Science and Technology Diplomacy, chaired by the Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, were held in 2016. Furthermore, at study groups organized by the Advisor on the four areas of Japan-U.S. cooperation, oceans/the Arctic, health, and international cooperation, involving experts and the relevant government ministries and agencies, the importance of evidence-based policy making was emphasized. As a result of these initiatives, the outcome document of the G7 Ise-Shima Summit supported efforts to enhance ocean observation for the science-based management of marine resources, and stated the importance of international cooperation in the area of medical data. The Advisor also submitted a recommendation to the Minister for Foreign Affairs toward the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI). This recommendation comprised the following two pillars: Improving Africa's science and technology level through human resource development, and applying research and development results to overall society.



Prof. Kishi, Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, submitting the recommendations toward TICAD VI, "A More Prosperous Africa with the Power of Science, Technology and Innovation" to Foreign Minister Kishida (August 15, Tokyo)

During TICAD VI in Kenya, the Advisor attended related events, visited local science and technology facilities, and exchanged views with concerned parties.

Along with Science and Technology Advisors from other countries including the U.S., the UK, and New Zealand, he also attended various international conferences and worked on network-building, through exchanges of opinions on the role of Advisors and ways of applying scientific knowledge to foreign policies.

Furthermore, Prof. Kishi also initiated a project to publicize technology and innovation through cooperation with the Cabinet Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs⁵ in Europe⁶, with the aim of enhancing the dissemination of information about Japan's prominent scientific and technological strength. In addition, he also widely disseminated information about Japan's initiatives in science and technology diplomacy at various fora in Japan and abroad, including the Symposium on

⁵ Project (known as "SIP Caravan") to introduce , the SIP (Strategic Innovation Promotion Program) , which is a new type of Japanese national project for science, technology and innovation, spearheaded by the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (CSTI) as it exercises its headquarters function to accomplish its role in leading science, technology and innovation beyond the framework of government ministries and traditional disciplines by facilitating coordination among government, industry and academic entities under 11 themes, in order to lay the groundwork for future international cooperation, as well as for the international dissemination of Japan's research and development output, through cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (diplomatic missions overseas).

⁶ Organized in Germany in June 2016, and in Austria, France, and the United Kingdom in October 2016.



Scene of the 2nd Japan-Indonesia Joint Committee Meeting on Science and Technology Cooperation (September 13, Tokyo)

Science and Technology Diplomacy held in Tokyo on May 24.

Japan has concluded 32 science and technology cooperation agreements with 47 countries/institutions, and organizes regular joint committee meetings with these countries based on the agreements, to engage in intergovernmental dialogue. In 2016, meetings were held with seven countries respectively: Sweden, Finland, Canada, the U.S., Indonesia, the UK, and Germany. With attendance by delegates from the relevant ministries and institutions, consultations were held on the current status of cooperation in diverse sectors, and on

the future direction of cooperation. Japan has contributed to promoting science and technology exchange with the respective countries through participation in, and implementation of, the relevant events such as seminars and fora on related contents as well as tours of facilities. In particular, the meeting with Indonesia marked the first such meeting in 34 years. A director-level taskforce meeting was also held with the EU, where opinions were exchanged with a view to the next joint committee meeting.

With regard to multilateral initiatives, as a member of the Board of the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) that supports research for peaceful purposes conducted by researchers on weapons of mass destruction from the former Soviet Union, Japan works together with the U.S. and the EU to provide support mainly for countries of Central Asia. Japan also participates in ITER projects.

Column

Applying Japanese Science and Technology to Diplomacy

~ Outlook for Activities by the Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Teruo Kishi, Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Knowledge of science and technology is required to resolve many of the issues confronting the world, such as global environmental issues, infectious diseases, and responding to natural disasters.

How can we harness Japan's strength in science and technology to diplomacy? Advice concerning this question is expected to be brought about through the activities of Science and Technology Advisors, who serve as science experts in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. To provide appropriate recommendations and advice, knowledge of 17 experts of Japan comprising the Advisory Board for the Promotion of Science and Technology Diplomacy, has been called into service to date. At the same time, there are high expectations in the scientific community for this advice and recommendations to ultimately contribute to the development of science and technology in Japan.

To harness Japan's strength in science and technology in diplomacy, it is important to adopt an approach of utilizing scientific knowledge and data in the formulation of

diplomatic policies. This idea involves using Japan's outstanding technologies, collecting accurate and precise data, conducting analysis based on scientific evidence, and applying it to policies.

Through activities including joint research between Japan and other countries, as well as human resource development activities in developing countries, science and technology has many roles to fulfill in Japan's diplomacy. If Japan's scientific and technological prowess can be harnessed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations, it would mark a further achievement for Japan's diplomacy. To that end, I have been working to introduce Japan's efforts in science, technology, and innovations in relation to SDGs both at home and abroad, and considering ways of promoting international cooperation which are currently under review.

Building networks between Science and Technology Advisors and scientists from other countries is another important aspect of an Advisor's work. The number of countries that have established the Science and Technology Advisor system remains relatively small, and currently includes countries such as the U.S., UK, and New Zealand. In light of this situation, there has been much talk about bringing together the Advisors from each country to provide inspiration and encouragement for science and technology diplomacy across the world through the activities of the Advisors. Bringing together Advisors from different countries to engage in discussion can also contribute to identifying issues that Science and Technology Advisors should pay attention to, based on the situation in the international community and the science and technology sector at the time. We could say that expanding science and technology diplomacy in such manner is a new and interesting development in the world of diplomacy.

The consolidation and penetration of scientific knowledge within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is also of great importance. In this regard, various initiatives have been put in place including seminars for the ministry officials to improve scientific literacy, and utilization of science and technology diplomacy network linking the Ministry with its diplomatic missions overseas to consolidate science and technology information from various countries, and to transmit Japan's science and technology to the world through such program as the Strategic Innovation Promotion Program (SIP) Caravan, to name a few.

As a science expert, by stepping into the field of diplomacy, which is a completely new world to me, I have gained new stimulus and excitement for myself. Of course, I also take pride in the fact that for the Government of Japan, the activities of Science and Technology Advisor are effectively strengthening Japan's diplomatic capabilities. I hope that Japan's science and technology will continue to contribute to Japan's diplomacy.



Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Kishi, visiting the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (August 25, Nairobi, Kenya)