

**Special Conference on the Peace and Stability  
in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region  
Chair's Summary  
Yokohama, Japan, August 29, 2019**

1. The Special Conference on the Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region was held in Yokohama, Japan on August 29, 2019, on the margin of the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7).

2. The Conference was chaired by H.E. Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, made welcome remarks. The Heads of State and Government, Ministers and high-level representatives from 15 countries and 16 organizations, including H.E. Mr. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and H.E. Mr. James Wani Igga, Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan, attended the conference.

3. At the conference, the participants shared positive evaluation of the remarkable progress of peace efforts in the Horn of Africa and the neighboring region (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda) driven by Africa's own initiatives, while exchanging views on the way forward, particularly how the international community can assist such efforts.

4. At the outset of the conference, H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, in his welcome remarks, highlighted the geopolitical importance of the region and paid tribute to the Africa-led peace efforts. He also stressed Japan's commitment to further supporting African efforts, with a particular emphasis upon human resource development, institution building as well as regional connectivity.

5. H.E. Mr. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed and H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed both presented their view that the Horn of Africa is shifting from a region of conflict into a region where countries work together for mutual benefit and integrated prosperity.

6. The participants unanimously welcomed the historic developments in the region that were initiated by the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Ethiopia and Eritrea in July 2018 that led to the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation between Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia. The

participants also reaffirmed the significance of the signing of the R-ARCSS in South Sudan in September 2018, and also welcomed the recent developments in Sudan, particularly the signing of the Constitutional Declaration on August 17 to establish a transitional administrative authority. The participants underlined the importance for all the stakeholders in the Horn of Africa and the neighboring region to work together to push these positive developments.

7. The participants noted that in order to accelerate the positive movements in the region, it is inevitable to remove the socio-economic root causes, by addressing poverty, piracy, migration, health and education. The participants also emphasized the need of empowerment of youth and women, non-proliferation of arms and fight against terrorism such as the activity of AMISOM.

8. The participants noted that peace and stability and economic development are linked to each other, and for the latter, it is especially important to strengthen connectivity and expand trade.

9. The participants from the Horn of Africa expressed their appreciation to the international community's long-time contribution in the region and their expectations for continuous support. The participants also commended the role African Union and IGAD has been playing.

10. The participants welcomed the attendance of Sudan at this conference, and shared the need of immediate support to steadily implement the process for reestablishment of the civilian rule.

11. On South Sudan, the participants also indicated the need to expedite the setting-up of the cantonment, and establishment of a transitional government based on the R-ARCSS. In this regard, H.E. Mr. James Wani Igga called for further support from the international community.

12. At the closing, H.E. Mr. Taro Kono stated that it would be a pleasure if this Conference has given a new suggestion of the new approach on the cooperation between international community and the Horn of Africa and the neighboring region. Upon request, he indicated Japan's preparedness to consider the best format of this Conference in the future.

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