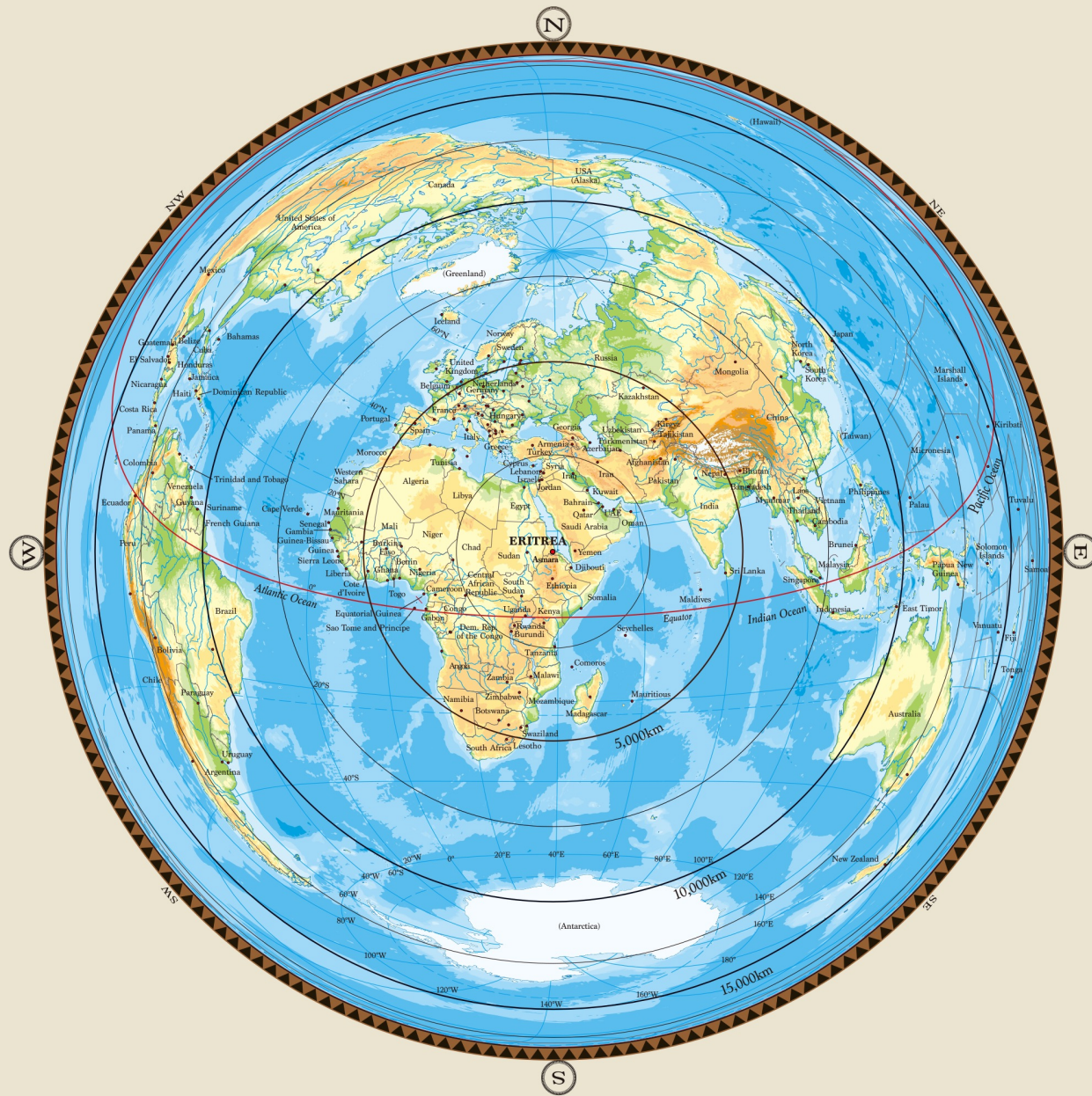


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# **-TICAD 30TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT- TICAD'S 30-YEAR HISTORY AND PROSPECTS**

## **STATEMENT AT PANEL-I 30 YEARS' HISTORY OF TICAD AUGUST 26, 2023**

**H.E. MR. ESTIFANOS AFEWORKI**  
**AMBASSADOR OF THE STATE OF ERITREA AND**  
**DEAN OF THE AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC CORPS**  
**TOKYO**



All points on this map are at correct directions from Asmara, the capital of Eritrea.

## Lambert's Azimuthal Equal-Area Projection Map

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- 1. A glimpse of past 30 years
- 2. Prevailing geo-political wind vs foreign policy of Japan
- 3. Prospects for Africa – Japan cooperation

# I. A GLIMPSE OF PAST 30 YEARS

- At the end of the Cold War period, the TICAD process of cooperation was introduced in the then global prevailing situation mainly to influence the UN Reform. The US, EU, Russia, China, India, Turkey, and other initiatives from Asian and American countries targeting Africa also followed suit.
- In brief: the different initiatives that targeted Africa in the last 30 years are many and multifaceted in nature. I will briefly highlight the major ones here in the interest of time.

# I. A GLIMPSE OF PAST 30 YEARS

- **The US – Africa Leaders Summit: was held two times.** In 2014, it was attended by 43 African countries, and in 2022: was attended by 45 heads of states and a financial pledge of 55 billion USD was made.
- **The Africa-Europe Summit : was held six times.** In 2000, it was attended by 40 African countries, and in 2022 – was attended by 40 heads of states and a financial pledge of 168 billion USD was made.
- **The Russia – Africa Summit: was held two times.** In 2019, it was attended by 54 African countries, and 45 heads of states and a financial pledge of 12.5 billion USD was made. In 2023- was also attended by 49 African countries, and 17 heads of states and a pledge to wipe out debts worth 23 billion USD by African countries, plus, assistance of Russian wheat supply were made.

## I. A GLIMPSE OF PAST 30 YEARS

- **The Turkey – Africa Partnership Summit:** was held three times, and in 2008: it was attended by 39 African countries, and in 2021: was attended by 16 Heads of States of African countries and no financial pledge was not announced.
- **The India – Africa Forum Summit:** was held three times and in 2008: it was attended by 45 African countries, and in 2015: was attended by 41 heads of states of African countries and a pledge of 10 billion USD was made.
- **The Forum on China – Africa Cooperation:** was held eight times, and in 2000: it was attended by 53 countries, and in 2021: was attended by 8 Heads of States of Africa and a financial pledge of 40 billion USD was made.

# I. A GLIMPSE OF PAST 30 YEARS

- **Tokyo International Cooperation for Development (TICAD):** was held 8 times, and in 1993: it was attended by 48 countries of Africa, and in 2022: was attended by 48 countries including 20 Head of States of Africa and a financial pledge of 30 billion USD plus a supply pledge of Ukrainian wheat were made.

## 2. PREVAILING GEO-POLITICAL WIND VS FOREIGN POLICY OF JAPAN

- It is history now that the first half of the 1990s saw a remarkable change in the paradigm of relations globally. In the initial euphoria regarding these events there was much hope. But as event continued to unfold, if anything has happened, it was the return of the past history of the Cold War with a vengeance.
- A win-win analogy was amplified, by many politicians and political scientists, in a big projection in all corners of the world after the fall of the Berlin wall, but if anything has happened in Africa, it is not congruent to what was promised in the New World Order.



## 2. PREVAILING GEO-POLITICAL WIND VS FOREIGN POLICY OF JAPAN

- For many who had monitored and followed events in the Africa continent closely - cross cutting issues like diverse range of actors with apparently irreconcilable differences over the protection and attainment of their military, security, material and political interests have increased dramatically. Unfortunately, as a result, the long history of the scramble for Africa is getting more and more pronounced and complex in the last 30 years.
- New economic giants such as Brazil, Russia, India, and South Africa remained in a steady development track and have become global economic forces to reckon with globally as well. Their economic and social impact on the continent of Africa is not to be underestimated too.

## 2. PREVAILING GEO-POLITICAL WIND VS FOREIGN POLICY OF JAPAN

- Multi-pronged foreign policy of Japan was also very prevalent during this important period of history clearly being reflected in G8 and later after Russia left on G7, the ASEAN, China, the fight against terrorism, nuclear energy, Middle East Oil, Japan – US Alliance, Maritime issues, North Korea, India, Republic of South Korea, Central Asia, UN Peace Keeping, Djibouti Military Base, Trans Pacific Trade Partnerships, and Free and Open Indo-Pacific, and the current war in Ukraine which had their wider policy ramifications on the continent of Africa as well.

### 3. PROSPECTS FOR AFRICA – JAPAN COOPERATION

- The prospects for Africa – Japan cooperation through the TICAD process are many. The current co-organizers' of the TICAD process, which include and doesn't exclude the African Union, strategic planning, strategic management system, implementation coordination's with transparent access procedures to the availed pledges are of paramount importance - especially on the following key areas of cooperation with the regional economic organizations of Africa and individual African countries:

1. UN Reform
2. Agriculture, fisheries, and marine resources
3. Industrialization
4. Minerals and hydrocarbon resources
5. Tourism
6. Infrastructure
7. Transportations, and
8. Social services

### 3. PROSPECTS FOR AFRICA – JAPAN COOPERATION

- In 2014, Japan stood 7th in trade, 5th in ODA and 10th in FDI in the African continent. Japan has also been a key catalyst in the creation of the Asian tigers in the last sixty years as well as in the BRICS countries in the last thirty years.

### 3. PROSPECTS FOR AFRICA – JAPAN COOPERATION

- In conclusion, allow me to stress in this important meeting that Japan should desist carrot and stick European colonialists' diplomacy and coercion in the African continent and stick to the principles of the ongoing TICAD process to promote genuine partnerships through Africa's Development Agenda 2063 which includes African countries national development plans and aspirations of equality, freedom, dignity and economic emancipation.
- The key to a sustainable future success of TICAD is pegged on a commitment of a fair play on a genuine cooperation for peace plus a prudent resource and energy diplomacy between Africa and Japan - away from the old legacy of European colonialism and history of slavery.

Thank you!

Peace Shall Prevail in Africa!

SKY IS THE LIMIT

FOR

AFRICA JAPAN COOPERATION