

December 17th, 2013

Communiqué of the Second Japan-Maghreb Ministerial Meeting

The Ministers from Japan and Maghreb Arab countries (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia), and the Secretary-General of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) held the Second Japan-Maghreb Ministerial Meeting in Tokyo on December 17th 2013.

Considering the historical challenges that the Middle East and North Africa region are crossing, Japan, Maghreb Arab countries, and the AMU shared the view that each Maghreb Arab country is making efforts to tackle the challenges and engaging themselves in reforms according to their specific national priorities. In this context, Japan expressed its intention to continue to work together with Maghreb Arab countries, focusing on the fields of:

- : Fair political process and government,
- : Human resource development,
- : Job creation and Industrial/technological development.

Recalling the outcomes of the TICAD V held in Yokohama in June 2013, Japan, Maghreb Arab countries, and the AMU emphasized the importance of their further promotion of trade and investment, infrastructure building, development of human resources, environment protection, education and scientific-technology exchanges. In this context, they recognized the importance of security in the region. Japan expressed its intention to continue assisting in anti-terrorism measures and security enhancement in this region.

Expecting Maghreb Arab region to be a gateway to Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Japan, Maghreb Arab countries, and the AMU emphasized the importance to reinforce cross-sectorial and multi-layered cooperation among the Maghreb Arab countries. They stressed the need to seek even more strengthened Maghreb Arab integration.

Acknowledging that the second Ministerial Meeting between Japan, Maghreb Arab countries, and the AMU was a successful framework for cooperation and exchange of views, they expressed their strong willingness to hold the third Meeting on the occasion of the Fourth Japan-Arab Economic Forum to be held in Morocco.