

Chapter 3

References



Vytautas Magnus University, to which Japan provided Japanese language laboratory equipment, which formerly was a Japanese Consulate during World War II and later became the Sugihara House commemorating Japanese diplomat Chiune Sugihara who granted visas to Jewish people who fled the Nazis (Lithuania). (Photo: JICS)

1. Japan's Official Development Assistance Charter (Approved by the Cabinet in August 2003)

Revision of Japan's Official Development Assistance Charter

Cabinet Decisions
August 29, 2003

Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) Charter, approved by the Cabinet in 1992, has been the foundation of Japan's aid policy for more than 10 years. The world has changed dramatically since the Charter was first approved, and today there is an urgent need for the international community, including Japan, to address new development challenges such as peace-building. Faced with these new challenges, many developed countries are strengthening their ODA policy, to deal with the serious problems that developing countries face. At the same time, not only governments and international organizations, but many other stakeholders are also assisting developing countries. All stakeholders engaged in development assistance are strengthening their mutual collaboration.

In line with the spirit of the Japanese Constitution, Japan

will vigorously address these new challenges to fulfill its responsibilities commensurate with its national strength and its standing in the international community. In this regard, it is important to have public support for ODA. It is essential to effectively implement ODA, fully taking into account the domestic economic and fiscal situation as well as the views of the Japanese people.

Against this background, the Government of Japan has revised the ODA Charter, with the aim of enhancing the strategic value, flexibility, transparency, and efficiency of ODA. The revision also has the aim of encouraging wide public participation and of deepening the understanding of Japan's ODA policies both within Japan and abroad.

Japan's Official Development Assistance Charter

I. Philosophy: Objectives, Policies, and Priorities

1. Objectives

The objectives of Japan's ODA are to contribute to the peace and development of the international community, and thereby to help ensure Japan's own security and prosperity.

Taking advantage of Japan's experience as the first nation in Asia to become a developed country, Japan has utilized its ODA to actively support economic and social infrastructure development, human resource development, and institution building. Consequently, Japan has significantly contributed to the economic and social development of developing countries, especially in East Asia.

Amid the post-Cold War advancement of globalization, the international community presently finds itself in a new environment, grappling with a multiplicity of problems such as the gap between the rich and the poor; ethnic and religious conflicts; armed conflicts; terrorism; suppression of freedom, human rights, and democracy; environmental problems; infectious diseases; and gender issues.

In particular, humanitarian problems, such as extreme poverty, famine, refugee crises, and natural disasters, as well as global issues such as those related to the environment and water, are important issues that need to be addressed in order for the international community as a whole to achieve sustainable development. These problems are cross border issues that present a grave threat to each and every human being.

Furthermore, conflicts and terrorism are occurring more

frequently and they are becoming even more serious issues. Preventing conflicts and terrorism, and efforts to build peace, as well as efforts to foster democratization, and to protect human rights and the dignity of individuals have become major issues inherent to the stability and development of the international community.

Japan, as one of the world's leading nations, is determined to make best use of ODA to take the initiative in addressing these issues. Such efforts will in turn benefit Japan itself in a number of ways, including by promoting friendly relations and people-to-people exchanges with other countries, and by strengthening Japan's standing in the international arena.

In addition, as nations deepen their interdependence, Japan, which enjoys the benefits of international trade and is heavily dependent on the outside world for resources, energy and food, will proactively contribute to the stability and development of developing countries through its ODA. This correlates closely with assuring Japan's security and prosperity and promoting the welfare of its people. In particular, it is essential that Japan make efforts to enhance economic partnership and vitalize exchange with other Asian countries with which it has particularly close relations.

Japan aspires for world peace. Actively promoting the aforementioned efforts with ODA, and manifesting this posture both at home and abroad is the most suitable policy for gaining sympathy and support from the international community for Japan's position. Therefore, Japan's ODA will continue to play an important role in the years to come.

2. Basic Policies

In order to achieve the objectives outlined above, Japan will carry out ODA even more strategically, in accordance with the following basic policies.

(1) Supporting self-help efforts of developing countries

The most important philosophy of Japan's ODA is to support the self-help efforts of developing countries based on good governance, by extending cooperation for their human resource development, institution building including development of legal systems, and economic and social infrastructure building, which constitute the basis for these countries' development. Accordingly, Japan respects the ownership by developing countries, and places priorities on their own development strategies.

In carrying out the above policy, Japan will give priority to assisting developing countries that make active efforts to pursue peace, democratization, and the protection of human

rights, as well as structural reform in the economic and social spheres.

(2) Perspective of "Human Security"

In order to address direct threats to individuals such as conflicts, disasters, infectious diseases, it is important not only to consider the global, regional, and national perspectives, but also to consider the perspective of human security, which focuses on individuals. Accordingly, Japan will implement ODA to strengthen the capacity of local communities through human resource development. To ensure that human dignity is maintained at all stages, from the conflict stage to the reconstruction and development stages, Japan will extend assistance for the protection and empowerment of individuals.

(3) Assurance of fairness

In formulating and implementing assistance policies, Japan will take steps to assure fairness. This should be achieved by giving consideration to the condition of the socially vulnerable, and the gap between the rich and the poor as well as the gap among various regions in developing countries. Furthermore, great attention will be paid with respect to factors such as environmental and social impact on developing countries of the implementation of ODA.

In particular, the perspective of gender equality is important. Japan will make further efforts to improve the status of women, giving full consideration to the active participation of women in development, and to ensuring that women reap benefits from development.

(4) Utilization of Japan's experience and expertise

Japan will utilize its own experience in economic and social development as well as in economic cooperation when assisting the development of developing countries, fully taking into account the development policies and assistance needs of developing countries. Japan will also utilize its advanced technologies, expertise, human resource, and institutions.

Implementation of ODA will be coordinated with key Japanese policies to ensure policy coherence, taking into consideration implications for Japan's economy and society.

(5) Partnership and collaboration with the international community

Mainly with the initiative of international organizations, the international community is sharing more common development goals and strategies and various stakeholders are increasingly coordinating their aid activities. Japan will

participate in this process, and endeavor to play a leading role. In parallel with such efforts, Japan will pursue collaboration with United Nations organizations, international financial institutions, other donor countries, NGOs, private companies, and other entities. In particular, Japan will enhance collaboration with international organizations that possess expertise and political neutrality, and will endeavor to ensure that Japan's policies are reflected appropriately in the management of those organizations.

In addition, Japan will actively promote South-South cooperation in partnership with more advanced developing countries in Asia and other regions. Japan will also strengthen collaboration with regional cooperation frameworks, and will support region-wide cooperation that encompasses several countries.

3. Priority Issues

In accordance with the objectives and basic policies set out above, the following are Japan's priority issues.

(1) Poverty reduction

Poverty reduction is a key development goal shared by the international community, and is also essential for eliminating terrorism and other causes of instability in the world. Therefore, Japan will give high priorities to providing assistance to such sectors as education, health care and welfare, water and sanitation and agriculture, and will support human and social development in the developing countries. At the same time, sustainable economic growth, increase in employment, and improvement in the quality of life are indispensable for realizing poverty reduction and Japan places importance on providing assistance for these issues accordingly.

(2) Sustainable growth

In order to invigorate developing countries' trade and investment, as well as people-to-people exchanges, and to support sustainable growth, Japan will place importance on providing assistance for the development of the socioeconomic infrastructure—a key factor for economic activity, and also for policy-making, the development of institutions, and human resource development. This will include (i) cooperation in the field of trade and investment including the appropriate protection of intellectual property rights and standardization; (ii) cooperation in the field of information and communications technology (ICT); (iii) the acceptance of exchange students; and (iv) cooperation for research.

In addition, Japan will endeavor to ensure that its ODA,

and its trade and investment, which exert a substantial influence on the development of recipient countries, are carried out in close coordination, so that they have the overall effect of promoting growth in developing countries. To that end, Japan will make efforts to enhance coordination between Japan's ODA and other official flows such as trade insurance and import and export finance. At the same time, private-sector economic cooperation will be promoted, making full use of private-sector vitality and funds.

(3) Addressing global issues

As for global issues such as global warming and other environmental problems, infectious diseases, population, food, energy, natural disasters, terrorism, drugs, and international organized crime, further efforts must be given immediately and in a coordinated manner by the international community. Japan will address these issues through ODA and will play an active role in the creation of international norms.

(4) Peace-building

In order to prevent conflicts from arising in developing regions, it is important to comprehensively address various factors that cause conflicts. As part of such undertakings, Japan will carry out ODA to achieve poverty reduction and the correction of disparities, as referred to above. In addition to assistance for preventing conflicts and emergency humanitarian assistance in conflict situations, Japan will extend bilateral and multilateral assistance flexibly and continuously for peace-building in accordance with the changing situation, ranging from assistance to expedite the ending of conflicts to assistance for the consolidation of peace and nation-building in post-conflict situations.

For example, ODA will be used for: assistance to facilitate the peace processes; humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance, such as assistance for displaced persons and for the restoration of basic infrastructure; assistance for assuring domestic stability and security, including disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of ex-combatants (DDR), and the collection and disposal of weapons, including demining; and assistance for reconstruction, including social and economic development and the enhancement of the administrative capabilities of governments.

4. Priority Regions

In light of the objectives stated above, Asia, a region with close relationship to Japan and which can have a major impact on Japan's stability and prosperity, is a priority region for

Japan. However, Japan will strategically prioritize assistance to Asian countries, fully taking into account the diversity of the Asian countries' socioeconomic conditions and changes in their respective assistance needs. In particular, the East Asian region which includes ASEAN is expanding and deepening economic interdependency and has been making efforts to enhance its regional competitiveness by maintaining economic growth and strengthening integration in recent years. ODA will be utilized to forge stronger relations with this region and to rectify disparities in the region, fully considering such factors as the strengthening of economic partnership with East Asian countries.

Also, Japan will give due consideration to the large population of impoverished people in South Asia. With respect to Central Asia and the Caucasus region, assistance will be provided to promote democratization and transition to market economies.

Japan will prioritize its assistance for other regions on the basis of the objectives, basic policies, and priority issues set out in this Charter, giving consideration to the needs for assistance and the state of development in each region.

Africa has a large number of least developed countries, and is affected by conflicts and serious development issues, amid which self-help efforts are being stepped up. Japan will provide assistance for these efforts.

The Middle East is an important region for energy supply and for the peace and stability of the international community, but it has destabilizing factors including the situation of Middle East peace process. Japan will provide assistance towards social stability and the consolidation of peace.

Latin America includes countries that are relatively well developed, but also island nations with fragile economies. Taking into consideration the disparities arising within the region as well as within countries, Japan will extend the necessary cooperation.

With respect to Oceania, assistance will be provided, as there are numerous vulnerable island nations.

II. Principle of ODA Implementation

In line with the philosophy set out above, Japan's ODA will be provided by comprehensively taking into account developing countries' need for assistance, socio-economic conditions, and Japan's bilateral relations with the recipient country, and ODA will be provided in accordance with the principles of the United Nations (especially sovereign equality and non-intervention in domestic matters) as well as the following points:

- (1) Environmental conservation and development should be pursued in tandem.
- (2) Any use of ODA for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts should be avoided.
- (3) Full attention should be paid to trends in recipient countries' military expenditures, their development and production of weapons of mass destruction and missiles, their export and import of arms, etc., so as to maintain and strengthen international peace and stability, including the prevention of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and from the viewpoint that developing countries should place appropriate priorities in the allocation of their resources on their own economic and social development.
- (4) Full attention should be paid to efforts for promoting democratization and the introduction of a market-oriented economy, and the situation regarding the protection of basic human rights and freedoms in the recipient country.

III. Formulation and Implementation of ODA Policy

1. System of Formulation and Implementation of ODA Policy

(1) Coherent formulation of ODA policy

In order to ensure that the government in its entirety implements ODA efficiently and effectively in a unified and coherent manner pursuant to this Charter, medium-term ODA policies and country assistance programs will be formulated, taking into account the partnership and collaboration with the international community referred to in the Basic Policies and ODA policies will be formulated and implemented in accordance with them. Country assistance programs will be drawn up for major recipient countries, and will set out explicitly the points to which priority is to be given, based on Japan's aid policy, and reflecting the recipient countries' true assistance needs.

In accordance with these medium-term ODA policies and country assistance programs, various methods of assistance-financial cooperation in the form of loans and grants, and technical cooperation-will be linked together effectively so as to take full advantage of the characteristics of each method. At the same time, Japan will be mindful of the balance between hardware type cooperation such as construction and provision of equipment, and software type cooperation such as technical cooperation and institution building. Each method will be reviewed appropriately.

(2) Collaboration among related government ministries and agencies

In order to ensure that the government as a whole formulates and implements policies in a unified and coherent manner, under the auspices of the Council of Overseas Economic Cooperation-Related Ministers, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will play the central coordinating role in strengthening broad collaboration between the ODA-related government ministries and agencies, including by means of personnel exchanges and by utilizing the expertise of those related ministries and agencies. For this purpose, the government ministries and agencies will actively use consultation fora such as the Inter-Ministerial Meeting on ODA.

(3) Collaboration between government and implementing agencies

While making clear the roles of the government and the implementing agencies (the Japan International Cooperation Agency* and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation) and the apportionment of responsibilities among them, collaboration will be strengthened, including by means of personnel exchanges to ensure an organic linkage between the government and the implementing agencies. In addition, implementing agencies will strengthen their mutual collaboration.

(4) Strengthening of policy consultation

In formulating and implementing assistance policies, it is essential to fully grasp the development policies and assistance needs of developing countries by engaging actively in policy consultation before requests are made by developing countries. At the same time, Japan will set out its assistance policies to the developing countries through dialogue, and the development policies of developing countries and Japan's assistance policy will be reconciled in order to maximize the effect of Japan's aid within those developing countries' development strategies. Furthermore, Japan will support efforts by developing countries to improve their policies and systems, including the ability to formulate and implement assistance projects. Japan will also take into consideration whether such efforts by the developing countries are sufficient in the formulation and implementation of ODA.

(5) Strengthening of the functions of field missions in the policy-making process and in implementation

The functions of field missions (primarily overseas diplomatic missions and offices of implementing agencies) will be strengthened, so that they will be able to play a leading role in

the policy-making process and in implementation. In particular, steps will be taken to develop a framework for strengthening the system, including through the use of outside personnel. Japan will also make efforts to make comprehensive and accurate assessments of developing countries' development policies and assistance needs, primarily at the local level. Japan will comprehensively identify local socioeconomic conditions and other aspects through local interested parties.

(6) Collaboration with aid-related entities

Collaboration with Japanese NGOs, universities, local governments, economic organizations, labor organizations, and other related stakeholders will be strengthened to facilitate their participation in ODA and to utilize their technologies and expertise. Japan will also seek to collaborate with similar entities overseas, particularly in developing countries. In addition, in the implementation of ODA, appropriate use will be made of the technologies and expertise of Japanese private companies.

2. Increasing public participation

(1) Broad participation by Japanese citizens from all walks of life

The government will take measures to foster participation in assistance activities by Japanese citizens from all walks of life, and to promote these citizens' interaction with developing countries. Such measures will include providing sufficient information, listening to public opinion, soliciting proposals for ODA activities, and extending cooperation to volunteer activities.

(2) Human resource development and development research

The government will make efforts to foster aid personnel with the necessary expertise and to increase the opportunities for aid personnel to be active both within Japan and overseas. In parallel with these efforts, high-quality personnel, such as persons with considerable overseas experience and extensive knowledge, will be widely sought and be encouraged to participate in ODA activities.

In addition, the government will encourage regional studies relating to developing countries and research on development policy, to promote accumulation of Japan's intellectual assets in the development sphere.

(3) Development education

Development education is important for promoting public

understanding with respect to international cooperation including ODA, and for fostering people that will be engaged in international cooperation in the future. In this perspective, the government will take measures in schools and on other occasions to carry out more widespread education on development issues, such as the problems that face developing countries, relations between Japan and developing countries and the role that development assistance should play. Necessary educational materials will be distributed and teachers will be trained.

(4) Information disclosure and public relations

It is important for information on ODA policy, implementation, and evaluation to be disclosed widely and promptly to ensure the sufficient transparency, and for it to be publicized actively. Therefore, the government will use a variety of means to provide information in easy-to-understand formats, and to create opportunities for Japanese citizens to come into contact with ODA activities that Japan is undertaking.

In addition, the government will make enhanced efforts to disseminate information regarding Japan's ODA to developing countries as well as other donors.

3. Matters Essential to Effective Implementation

(1) Enhancement of education

The government will carry out consecutive evaluations at all stages, i.e. ex-ante, mid-term, and ex-post, and evaluations at each level, i.e. policy, program, and project. Furthermore, in order to measure, analyze and objectively evaluate the outcome of ODA, third-party evaluations conducted by experts will be enhanced while the government undertakes policy evaluations. The evaluation results will be reflected in subsequent ODA policy-making and efficient and effective implementation.

(2) Ensuring appropriate procedures

The government will adopt procedures to ensure that full consideration is given to the environmental and social impact of implementation of ODA. The government will make efforts to conduct appropriate and efficient procurement with regard to quality and price. At the same time, while ensuring these aspects, the procedures will be simplified and accelerated.

(3) Prevention of fraud and corruption

The government will implement appropriate measures to ensure the transparency of the activity-selection and implementation process, and to prevent fraud, corruption, and improper diversion of aid. In addition, the government will make efforts to assure the appropriate use of funds by enhancing auditing, including through the introduction of external audits.

(4) Ensuring the safety of ODA personnel

Safeguarding the lives and personal safety of ODA personnel is a prerequisite for the implementation of ODA. The government will fully obtain security related information and will take appropriate measures.

IV. Reporting on the Status of Implementation of the Official Development Assistance Charter

The government will report the status of the implementation of the Official Development Assistance Charter in the "White Paper on Official Development Assistance (ODA)," which is reported annually to the Cabinet.

*On October 1, 2003, the Japan International Cooperation Agency is due to be reorganized as an independent administrative institution, changing its status from that of a special public institution.

August 29, 2003

2. Japan's Official Development Assistance Charter Before Revision (Approved by the Cabinet in June 1992)

Cabinet Decisions
June 30, 1992

In order to garner broader support for Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) through better understanding both at home and abroad and to implement it more effectively and efficiently, the government of Japan has established the following Charter for its ODA.

1. Basic Philosophy

Many people are still suffering from famine and poverty in the developing countries, which constitute a great majority among countries in the world. From a humanitarian viewpoint, the international community can ill afford to ignore this fact.

The world is now striving to build a society where freedom, human rights, democracy and other values are ensured in peace and prosperity. We must recognize the fact of interdependence among nations of the international community and that stability and the further development of the developing world is indispensable to the peace and prosperity of the entire world.

Environmental conservation is also a task for all humankind, which all countries, developed and developing alike, must work together to tackle.

It is an important mission for Japan, as a peace-loving nation, to play a role commensurate with its position in the world to maintain world peace and ensure global prosperity.

Bearing these points in mind, Japan attaches central importance to the support for the self-help efforts of developing countries towards economic take-off. It will therefore implement its ODA to help ensure the efficient and fair distribution of resources and "good governance" in developing countries through developing a wide range of human resources and socioeconomic infrastructure, including domestic systems, and through meeting the basic human needs (BHN), thereby promoting the sound economic development of the recipient countries. In so doing, Japan will work for globally sustainable development while meeting the requirements of environmental conservation.

Such assistance is expected to further promote the existing friendly relations between Japan and all other countries, especially those in the developing world.

2. Principles

Taking into account comprehensively each recipient country's request, its socioeconomic conditions, and Japan's bilateral relations with the recipient country, Japan's ODA will be provided in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter (especially those of sovereign equality and non-intervention in domestic matters), as well as the following four principles.

- (1) Environmental conservation and development should be pursued in tandem.
- (2) Any use of ODA for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts should be avoided.
- (3) Full attention should be paid to trends in recipient countries' military expenditures, their development and production of mass destruction weapons and missiles, their export and import of arms, etc., so as to maintain and strengthen international peace and stability, and from the viewpoint that developing countries should place appropriate priorities in the allocation of their resources in their own economic and social development.
- (4) Full attention should be paid to efforts for promoting democratization and introduction of a market-oriented economy, and the situation regarding the securing of basic human rights and freedoms in the recipient country.

3. Priority

(1) Regions

Historically, geographically, politically and economically, Asia is a region close to Japan. East Asian countries, especially member countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), constitute one of the most economically dynamic regions in the world, and it is important for the world economy as a whole to sustain and promote the economic development of these countries. There are, however, some Asian countries where large segments of the population still suffer from poverty. Asia, therefore, will continue to be a priority region for Japan's ODA.

It is also necessary to be mindful of the poverty and the economic difficulties in the world as a whole. Japan will therefore extend cooperation, befitting its position in the world, to Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and Oceania. Due consideration will be paid in particular to Least among Less Developed Countries (LLDCs).

(2) *Issues*

(a) Approach to Global Problems

Recognizing that it is important for developed and developing countries to cooperate in tackling global problems such as the environment and population, Japan will support efforts being made by developing countries to overcome these problems.

(b) Basic Human Needs

To help people suffering from famine and poverty, refugees, and others, Japan will provide assistance to the BHN sector and emergency humanitarian aid.

(c) Human Resources Development, Research and Other Cooperation for Improvement and Dissemination of Technologies

A priority of Japan's ODA will be placed on assistance to human resources development which, in the long term, is the most significant element of self-help efforts towards socioeconomic development and is a basic factor for the nation-building of developing countries. Japan will also promote cooperation for the improvement and dissemination of technologies, such as research cooperation that will add to research and development as well as adaptive capabilities of developing countries.

(d) Infrastructure Improvement

Priority will be placed on assisting infrastructure improvement, which is a prerequisite to socioeconomic development.

(e) Structural Adjustment

Japan will provide support to structural adjustment, so that the entrepreneurship and the vitality of the private sector in recipient countries can be fully exerted in the market mechanisms, and to their efforts for a solution to the accumulated debt problem.

4. Measures for the Effective Implementation of Official Development Assistance

(1) Japan will promote intensive policy dialogues with recipient countries, with a view to collecting and analyzing relevant information on these countries, and sharing with them basic perceptions on their development policies, taking into account their requests and ideas.

(2) To respond to the various needs of developing countries in different stages of development, Japan's ODA will take advantage, to the maximum extent possible, of the merits of loans, grants, technical cooperation and other forms of assistance. All of these forms of assistance will be organically linked together and coordinated.

(3) When called for, there will be appropriate communication and cooperation with aid agencies of other donor countries, United Nations agencies and international financial institutions, as well as Japanese local governments and private organizations such as labor and business organizations. In particular, efforts will be made to ensure that Japan's perspective on ODA is adequately reflected in the cooperation through international organizations, while taking full advantage of the expertise and political neutrality of these organizations. There will also be cooperation with and appropriate support to non-governmental organizations (NGOs), while respecting their independence.

(4) Japan's own development policies and experiences, as well as those of countries in East and Southeast Asia which have succeeded in economic take-off, will be put to practical use.

(5) In implementing environmental ODA, Japan will make the best use of its technology and know-how, which it has acquired in the process of successfully making environmental conservation and economic development compatible.

(6) In order to contribute to the transfer of technology suitable to the level of development of the recipient countries, Japan will promote the development of relevant technologies and will provide such assistance as will enable the adequate utilization of the knowledge and technologies possessed by other developing countries.

(7) In transferring technology and know-how, Japan will make use of those possessed by the Japanese private sector as well as by the government, and provide support for technical cooperation by the private sector.

(8) In order to cope with transnational regional problems, Japan will cooperate more closely with international organizations and other frameworks for regional cooperation such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

(9) A close relationship will be maintained between ODA, direct investment and trade, so that those three can promote the development of developing countries organically. For this purpose, ODA will be more closely linked to and be supportive of economic cooperation in the private sector through trade insurance and such organizations as the Export-Import Bank of Japan.

(10) Cooperation and research to find and formulate adequate development projects will be enhanced. For the future improvement of its ODA, project evaluations, including third party evaluations and joint evaluations with recipients and other donors and organizations, will also be strengthened.

- (11) Regional studies of developing countries, studies of development policy, and comprehensive evaluation of ODA will be further promoted.
- (12) Full consideration will be given to the active participation of women in development, and to their obtaining benefits from development.
- (13) Full consideration will be given to the socially weak, such as the disadvantaged, children and the elderly.
- (14) Consideration will be given to redressing the gap between the rich and the poor and the gap among various regions in developing countries.
- (15) Japan's ODA activities will be conducted with full care to see that they do not lead to injustice or corruption in the recipient countries.

5. Measures to Promote Understanding and Support at Home and Abroad

The following measures will be adopted to ensure that ODA is implemented with public understanding both at home and abroad and to secure the participation of the Japanese people.

(1) Making ODA Information Public

While taking into account such matters as diplomatic relations with recipient countries, more information regarding the ODA activities will be made available to the Diet and to the public.

(2) Enhancement of Public Relations and Development Education

Organized public relations activities and educational programs on development assistance will be promoted.

6. ODA Implementation System

(1) Recruitment, Training and Utilization of Competent Aid Personnel

In order to recruit, train and utilize fully the talents of competent ODA personnel, training institutes of aid experts will be enhanced to foster more development experts, private enterprise consultants and others.

(2) Ensuring Effective and Efficient Mechanisms to Implement ODA

Communication and consultation between relevant ministries and agencies will be promoted for the effective and efficient implementation of ODA. In addition, cooperation

between the two aid-implementing organizations, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) will be intensified. At the same time, the ODA implementation functions of these two organizations will be improved. In order to obtain further cooperation from the private sector, efforts will be made to extend such support to this sector as will appropriately cover the related operating expenses.

(3) Ensuring the Safety of ODA Personnel Dispatched Overseas

Continued efforts will be made to safeguard the lives and personal safety of ODA personnel dispatched to developing areas, and to provide necessary assistance in the event of unexpected incidents.

3. Japan's Medium-Term Policy on Official Development Assistance (ODA)

August 10, 1999

Introduction

Humankind has achieved an unprecedented level of development during the second half of the 20th century. In developing countries, average life expectancy has increased by more than 20 years, while adult literacy rates, which in the 1950s stood below 50%, rose to about two-thirds. However, some 1.3 billion people continue to live in extreme poverty, 1.1 billion people do not have access to safe and clean water, and more than 800 million people are suffering the effects of malnutrition and starvation. Clearly much remains to be done. Many countries have taken large strides toward democratization and the implementation of market-oriented economic systems since the end of the Cold War. Yet during the same period, in some regions of the world, conflicts and domestic confrontations have taken on a greater intensity, often instigated by conditions of poverty and lack of development.

With dramatic advances in information technology and economic liberalization, important improvements in economic efficiency have been attained, together with a rapid growth in international interdependence. However, this wave of globalization has left many countries behind, exacerbating the gap between the rich and the poor. The Asian economic crisis of 1997 unveiled the structural vulnerability of developing economies and underlined the need for new assistance. Furthermore, the Asian economic crisis served to spotlight the close and inseparable economic ties between Japan and the East Asian region (including Southeast Asia). As such, Japanese assistance for structural reform, economic rehabilitation, and social stabilization in East Asian countries constitutes an extremely important and direct link to the prosperity of Japan and is also an important factor in the formulation of Japan's economic policies.

Global warming and other environmental problems could potentially have a negative impact, not only on individual countries but on the Earth in its entirety. Indeed, there are numerous problems that demand a concerted effort on the part of the international community, including the problems of population growth, AIDS, food, energy resources, and drug abuse. These are problems that are intricately linked to the developing world.

With the approach of the 21st century, the industrial countries of the world face the common challenge of supporting developing countries to achieve sustainable and environmentally sound development. As the world's second largest economy and the largest donor of official development assistance (ODA), Japan shoulders the important responsibility of contributing to sustainable social and economic development in developing countries. This is a role through which Japan can win the confidence and appreciation of the international community. Furthermore, as a nation whose prosperity is closely linked to world peace and stability and that is highly dependent on the importation of resources, energy, food, and other basic materials, ODA plays a very significant role in ensuring Japan's own stability and prosperity. As such, economic assistance promotes Japan's best interests, including the maintenance of peace.

Japan is experiencing fiscal and economic difficulties and there have been major changes in the domestic and international environment for aid. It is necessary to further consider, in a more integrated manner, how to implement ODA in light of these factors. Under such circumstances, it is important to earn public understanding and support for the ODA program in order to continue to respond to the high expectations of the international community. To achieve this understanding and support, assistance must be adequately implemented in accordance with the basic philosophy and principles spelled out in the Official Development Assistance Charter (ODA Charter)*¹ and efforts must be continued to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of aid programs. Moreover, proper accountability must be established vis-à-vis the Diet and the general public, and Japan's ODA program must be coordinated with its foreign policies and with other important policies pertaining to the national interest.

While Japan's ODA program has generally received high marks, it is a fact that the original objectives of ODA projects are not always met and that certain improvements are necessary. This is attributable, in part, to the inherent difficulty of undertaking ODA while working jointly with countries with vastly differing histories, cultures, customs, laws, and linguistic backgrounds.

In view of the above, the Government of Japan herein sets down its basic approaches in regard to ODA, and identifies overall priority issues and sectors as well as those by region. Undertaken with a five-year time frame in mind, this medium-term policy will be subject to review and modification in response to changing domestic and international conditions.

I. Basic Approaches

1. In 1996, the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development issued its "Development Partnership Strategy" in "Shaping the 21st Century: The Contribution of Development Cooperation." The guidelines for future development cooperation were based on the analysis of 50 years of development cooperation by industrial countries and on the role of assistance in the international community. This document identifies the improvement of living standards as the main objective of development cooperation and formulates specific goals for social development, such as halving the proportion of impoverished populations by the year 2015.*² Japan played a leading role in the preparation of the Development Partnership Strategy and continues its efforts to set such an approach in motion in the international community. As a result, the Development Partnership Strategy is now becoming a common guideline for development cooperation with developing countries. Japan will continue to manage its ODA in a manner consistent with its ODA Charter and with an eye to the goals of the Development Partnership Strategy.
2. The key to realizing the goals of the Development Partnership Strategy lies in the self-help efforts and the initiatives of developing countries as they work toward economic take-off. Japan will emphasize "good governance" through the improvement of the policy management capabilities of developing countries and will work to support their initiatives in this area. Japan will also encourage developing countries to ensure proper implementation and transparency in aid projects. On the premise of such self-help efforts and initiatives, Japan will endeavor to develop partnerships through cooperation and coordination with other donor countries and international organizations.
3. The provision of aid must be based on the proper evaluation of the development agendas and the needs and wishes of individual countries. Various forms of aid must be effectively combined to ensure a proper match to the developmental stage of the recipient country. Likewise, it is necessary to undertake policy dialogues with developing countries and utilize prior studies to design effective and efficient aid projects that conform to national conditions and needs. Special attention must be paid to ensure that vested interests do not emerge in aid-receiving sectors and recipient countries. Whenever necessary, Japan will review its aid schemes, such as Yen loans, in light of changing conditions.
4. A comprehensive approach is needed to enhance the impact of aid. Specifically, the available resources of pertinent entities such as developing countries, donor countries, international organizations, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) must be appropriately utilized. Similarly, cooperation and an appropriate division of roles and responsibilities among these entities must be established. In view of the growing importance of trade and investment and other private-sector activities observed in Asia, Latin America, and elsewhere, efforts must be made to improve the environment for private-sector activities and the inflow of private funds. In this respect, special attention should be paid to equitable and efficient resource allocation, the amelioration of disparities, and the provision of assistance to sectors not benefiting from private flows.
5. Economic growth is a necessary measure for the improvement of welfare, and "human-centered development" is indispensable to the realization of sustainable development. Consequently, Japan will provide assistance for balanced economic growth and social development. Based on this human-centered approach, special attention will be given to the needs of the least developed countries (LLDC).*³ Due attention will also be focused on "human security" and the protection of individuals and communities from various dangers and threats, including environmental destruction, starvation, drug abuse, organized crime, infectious diseases, human rights infringements, regional conflicts, and anti-personnel mines.
6. The provision of ODA must be based on the understanding and support of taxpayers and the general public. For this purpose, Japan will actively endeavor to increase national involvement in and visibility of Japanese aid and promote better awareness of Japan's assistance programs in recipient countries. Japan will also continue to contribute through multilateral agencies, which provide certain advantages not available through bilateral aid. Furthermore, efforts will also be made to further utilize Japan's experiences, technology, and know-how, taking into consideration increased opportunities for Japanese businesses to participate in ODA projects and encouraging broad-based public participation in development cooperation through universities, think tanks, local governments, and NGOs. Through such efforts, Japan will maintain its vitality within the global community, continuing to enjoy harmonious development in the future and winning the confidence and appreciation of the international community.

II. Priority Issues and Sectors

In light of the basic approaches enunciated above, henceforth Japan will place greater emphasis on poverty alleviation programs and various aspects of social development, human resources development, policy-related assistance and other "soft" types of aid. This will be done while considering the balance with assistance aimed at economic and social infrastructure development. Japan will also continue to work actively on tackling global issues.

1. Support for Poverty Alleviation Programs and Social Development

The importance of combating poverty is fully reflected in the goals of DAC's "Development Partnership Strategy." This has also been confirmed in the so-called "20/20 Initiative" of the United Nation's World Summit for Social Development of 1995, which calls on industrial countries to earmark at least 20% of their economic assistance, and developing countries at least 20% of their national budgets, to basic social needs.*4 The "Initiative for a Caring World" proposed by Japan*5 advocates the sharing of knowledge and experience to improve the welfare of people in developing countries.

The following factors are of special importance in the fight against poverty: equitable distribution of the benefits of economic development, implementation of economic cooperation projects directly aimed at assisting the poor, and the sharing of Japan's own experiences of economic growth and poverty eradication with developing countries.

Assistance for basic education and health and medical services plays a critical role in poverty alleviation programs and social development projects. The perspective of "women in development" (WID) and gender issues is of similar importance for developing countries.*6 As access to safe water constitutes a vital element in supporting human health, the scarcity of water resources could conceivably result in increased tensions in the future. For this reason, assistance for water resource development and the management and use of existing water resources has become increasingly important. To reduce regional disparities, assistance to rural and impoverished areas must be assigned greater importance. In many developing countries, large populations reside in rural areas. Thus, the elimination of poverty in such areas is of importance. The Asian currency and economic crisis has served to reiterate the importance of agriculture and of rural areas.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

-Japan will endeavor to achieve the goals of the "20/20 Initiative," while keeping in mind the objectives outlined in the Development Partnership Strategy.

-Japan will assist developing countries in their efforts to improve policy formulation and implementation capabilities and to comprehensively address poverty alleviation. Japan will emphasize software-oriented cooperation such as the development of institutions that will promote the distribution of the benefits of economic development to impoverished populations.

-Japan will employ comprehensive and cross-sectoral approaches involving WID and gender considerations, job training and employment creation, and micro-financing. Japan will also emphasize community-oriented and participatory approaches to economic assistance.

-To reduce regional disparities, assistance will be provided for promoting the key rural industries of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. Similarly, local industries will be nurtured to create new employment opportunities. Emphasis will be placed on improving the living environment and on training community organizations.

(1) Basic Education

Not only is access to education a basic human right, it is a key factor in developing an effective response to the problems of poverty, population, and the environment in developing countries.

In the least-developed countries, as well as in many developing countries, access to elementary education is hampered by a lack of funds, educational facilities, teaching materials, and teachers. Consequently, nearly 860 million people throughout the world remain illiterate. The objectives of the Development Partnership Strategy include the promotion of elementary education and the elimination of gender disparities in elementary and secondary education. Japan's assistance in the field of basic education has included the construction of school buildings*7 and the provision of equipment and materials. For the elimination of gender disparities in Asia and Africa, Japan has been supporting the activities of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for the education of girls.*8

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

-In addition to hardware-oriented assistance for the construction of schools and provision of equipment and materials, Japan will upgrade its advisory assistance in both the areas of course development and educational administration, including assistance for the enhancement of system and capacity building in school administration, curriculum and teaching materials

development, and teacher training.

- Japan will pay special attention to supporting basic education for girls.
- Active efforts will be made to utilize the resources of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and to promote cooperation with NGOs in the education of local communities, as well as to promote community participation in the implementation of assistance projects.
- Efforts will be made to ensure that assistance for basic education contributes to the improvement of job training and worker capacities in response to local needs and conditions.

(2) Health and Medical Care

Poverty and a lack of development directly affect people's health in developing countries. Past development efforts have resulted in the improvement of health indicators in developing countries. For instance, Japan has actively contributed to the WHO program for eradicating polio from the West Pacific region. Thanks to such efforts, polio has almost vanished from the West Pacific region and has declined dramatically on a worldwide scale.*⁹ However, nearly 12 million children under the age of five continue to die every year from preventable diseases. In order to respond to the many remaining challenges, it is essential that "primary health care" be made available to the greatest number of people possible. Humankind is also being threatened by emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and various parasitic diseases. It is necessary for Japan to collaborate with WHO and with other donor countries and organizations in the fight against these epidemics.

The Development Partnership Strategy identifies as one of its goals the promotion of health care medical services for reproductive health, including the reduction of infant mortality and mortality rates in pregnancy and during delivery.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Japan will continue to provide both hardware-oriented assistance and advisory assistance to core institutions of the medical and health care systems of developing countries.
- Japan will emphasize primary health care and will provide assistance for the creation of health and medical systems geared toward providing basic health care services to the largest possible number of people.
- Japan will make maximum use of its own past experiences to assist the governments of developing countries in policy formulation and improved capacity building and will promote improved health and medical policies through policy dialogues.

- To effect sustainable cooperation, Japan will actively pursue community participation and collaboration with NGOs.
- In view of the fact that economic crises most seriously affect the vulnerable members of society and their health, Japan will endeavor to prevent the erosion of past achievements in the area of health care.

(3) Women in Development (WID)/Gender in Developing Countries

Of the 1.3 billion people living in conditions of poverty throughout the world, 70% are women. Similarly, women are placed in disadvantageous positions in terms of education, employment, and health. Assistance for women is an important factor in achieving balanced and sustainable economic development in developing countries, as is the balanced participation of men and women in assistance projects and the distribution of the benefits derived from such projects. In 1995, Japan announced its "Initiative on WID" for assigning special importance to education, health, and the social and economic participation of women in the implementation of assistance projects.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Japan will provide active assistance for the health and education of women, family planning, micro-financing for promoting the economic independence of women, job training, and the improvement of the work environment. Moreover, Japan will assist developing countries in improving policy formulation capabilities in these fields.
- Japan will endeavor to utilize monitoring and evaluate results pertaining to gender, while paying due attention to the impact of the participation of male and female community members in assistance projects on gender.

2. Support for Economic and Social Infrastructure

The maintenance of sustainable economic development constitutes an essential requirement in promoting social development and poverty alleviation programs in developing countries and for working towards the achievement of the goals specified in the Development Partnership Strategy. Over the years, Japan has used its Yen loans to actively support the development of the social and economic infrastructures that underpin the process of economic growth. In this way, Japan has made a major contribution to building the foundation for economic development, particularly in the Asian region.*¹⁰ It must be borne in mind that, while the development of social and economic infrastructure requires adequate volumes of

medium- and long-term funds, only a limited group of developing countries are able to generate these funds domestically or to attract adequate private funds from overseas.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Japan will continue to provide assistance for the development of social and economic infrastructure in developing countries. These projects will target such sectors as transportation, communication, electric power generation, and river and irrigation facilities, and efforts will be designed to correspond to the conditions and needs of individual countries.
- In view of the importance of non-ODA funds, Japan will emphasize coordination and division of roles and responsibilities with private-sector funds and other official flows (OOF).
- Japan will utilize ODA funds to develop an environment conducive to private investment.
- Japan will cooperate in the policy aspects of infrastructure development, including the formulation, design and specification of development plans. Similarly, Japan will cooperate in the maintenance and management of facilities through both financial and technical assistance in order to maintain the benefits of assistance projects.
- In the process of project implementation, Japan will pay due attention to ensuring that project benefits reach impoverished regions and populations. Japan will also take into consideration the impact of projects on local communities and populations and on the environment.

3. Human Resources Development and Intellectual Support

(1) Human Resources Development

The development of individuals is the base for the development of a country, and one of Japan's basic aims in providing economic assistance is to support the self-help efforts of recipient countries. As such, Japan places particular emphasis on the continuing development of human resources needed for the social and economic development of developing countries.*¹¹

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- In order to support the self-help efforts of developing countries, Japan will promote the dispatch of experts and the acceptance of trainees.
- Japan will give due attention to support for the educational sector, including higher education, and vocational training programs.

-Japan will endeavor to promote the transfer of technologies and the development of human resources that conform to the national conditions and needs of recipient countries.

-Japan will provide assistance that directly enhances the capabilities of communities and residents through the use of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and Senior Overseas Volunteers.

-Japan will actively endeavor to develop human resources projects that will have a geographically broad effect (such as third-country training).*¹²

Japan will actively promote the acceptance of foreign students from developing countries and Japanese language training, both in developing countries and in Japan. Such initiatives will be pursued not only from the perspective of human resources development, but also in view of their significance in promoting mutual understanding between Japan and developing countries. Initiatives will also be pursued in terms of their strategic importance in directly benefiting Japan's intellectual and advisory contributions to the international community. Japan will provide assistance while emphasizing the following points.

- Japan will upgrade and improve its systems for the acceptance of foreign students (including follow-up programs for foreign students returning to their home countries) in accordance with "The 100,000 Foreign Students Plan."
- Japan will promote the exchange of personnel, including the exchange of teachers.
- In response to the increasingly diverse needs of foreign students, Japan will endeavor to improve the quality of university education for foreign students, the scholarship system for foreign students, and direct support for foreign students.
- Coordination will be pursued with the private sector, which plays a key role in assisting foreign students.
- Active support will be provided for Japanese language training, which plays a central role in promoting a better understanding of Japanese culture in foreign countries and the acceptance of foreign students.

(2) Intellectual Support

The importance of intellectual support is growing, not only for economies in transition, but also for developing countries undergoing economic development against the background of rapid economic globalization. Such countries are in particular need of intellectual support that corresponds to ongoing changes in their economic and social systems. Much of the experience and know-how accumulated by Japan in the process of its own economic development can prove highly

effective in supporting the progress of developing countries. Of particular importance is support pertaining to the formulation of various types of systems and policies, including the development of legal frameworks. Utilizing Japanese human resources through the dispatch of policy advisers and other experts is effective for this purpose. Against a background of growing international interdependence in the areas of trade and investment, support in respect of such advisory services will play an important role in supporting global economic systems such as the WTO-based multilateral trading system.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

-Japan will emphasize support for policy and institutional development, including the development of legal frameworks, in the following areas.

- (a) The development of appropriate fiscal, financial, and other economic systems.
- (b) The enhancement of policy formulation and the implementation capacities of developing countries.
- (c) Promotion of a market economy.
- (d) Protection of socially vulnerable groups and individuals.
- (e) Prevention of pollution and preservation of natural environment.

-Japan will provide intellectual support for institutional development, promoting the distribution of the benefits of economic growth to impoverished populations.

-Support will be provided by experts, not only of the public sector but of a wide range of private sector entities, including universities and think tanks, and through the dispatch of policy advisors.

(3) Support for Democratization

Reinforcing the democratic foundations in developing countries will promote greater public participation in governance and development and the protection of human rights. As such, democratization is an extremely important factor in achieving medium- to long-term stability and development. Since the end of the Cold War, many countries have been endeavoring to introduce democratic institutions together with market principles. It is important to support these efforts and work toward the reinforcement of democracy.

Japan's support for democratization includes such activities as the acceptance of trainees, the organization of seminars, and the provision of personnel, and financial assistance for domestic elections in developing countries.*¹³

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

-Japan will actively provide the following types of support to

countries pursuing democratization and market-oriented economic reforms: support for the improvement of administrative management capabilities; support for the development of developing institutions and policies pertaining to democratization and the introduction of market principles; human resources development; participatory development; and support for public elections.

-In view of the unique features of the fundamental transformations engendered by the political process of democratization and introduction of market principles, Japan will pay due attention to the political systems, the social and economic conditions, and the historical backgrounds of individual countries.

4. Responding to Global Issues

(1) Environmental Conservation

Environmental problems such as global warming may threaten the very existence of mankind. In many developing countries, environmental problems are now jeopardizing the foundations of development. Environmental problems include serious environmental pollution as a result of the process of economic growth and rapid degradation of the natural environment as a result of population growth and poverty. These problems pose challenges that call for a global, coordinated response. DAC's Development Partnership Strategy contains concrete goals for formulating national strategies for environmental conservation and reversing the depletion of environmental resources.

Global environmental problems have been assigned the highest priority in Japan's diplomatic agenda.*¹⁴ Through its own experiences, Japan has learned much about developing technologies for pollution control to achieve economic growth while preserving the environment. Both Japan's experiences and technologies can play a significant role in promoting social and economic development and in achieving sustainable development in developing countries. Japan will support the environmental programs and efforts of developing countries and assist in the enhancement of their environmental capacities. Moreover, cooperation and collaboration with local governments and NGOs on issues regarding environmental conservation will be of vital importance.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

-In accordance with the basic principles and action program of the "Initiatives for Sustainable Development toward the 21st Century" (ISD), announced by Japan in the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the Environment and

Development held in June 1997, Japan will continue to actively support programs and countermeasures in the following areas: (a) air and water pollution and waste disposal, (b) global warming, (c) conservation of the natural environment and sustainable management of forest resources, (e) "fresh water" issues, and (f) environmental awareness building and strategic studies.

- With regard to global warming, Japan will continue to actively promote the objectives of the Kyoto Initiative (providing assistance to developing countries for combating global warming),*¹⁵ as it announced at the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in December 1997.
- Japan will pay special attention to projects related to environmental conservation, through the provision of Yen loans on concessional terms.

(2) Population and AIDS

The continued growth of world population*¹⁶ stands with the global environment, food, and energy as critical global-scale issues. Moreover, in many developing countries, population growth is directly linked to the problems of poverty, unemployment, starvation, lack of education, and deterioration of the environment. Similarly, the international spread of HIV/AIDS*¹⁷ presents a serious obstacle to development in developing countries by severely undermining people's health and their ability to work.

In response to these problems, Japan announced the launching of its "Global Issues Initiative on Population and AIDS" (GII)*¹⁸ in 1994 and has been actively involved in these fields. Japan is also contributing to the international fight against AIDS, primarily through its support of the United Nations AIDS Program (UNAIDS).

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Based on the objectives of GII and from the perspective of reproductive health, Japan will work on a comprehensive approach that includes: direct assistance for population control and family planning; indirect assistance through the provision of primary health care services and elementary and secondary education for women and children; and support for the empowerment of women.
- As these initiatives necessitate finely tuned grassroots efforts, Japan will further its collaboration with local governments and NGOs.
- With regard to AIDS, Japan will further its cooperation with UNAIDS and contribute to the international fight against

AIDS. Japan will also strengthen its bilateral collaboration with other major donor countries and with international organizations.

(3) Food

Projections indicate that the rapid growth in world population and changing diets will result in a significant increase in food demand. Conversely, a slowdown in the growth of food production has been noted. The stability of food supplies is further complicated by such problems as continued soil degradation, limited water resources, climate change, and abnormal weather conditions.

Participants in the World Food Summit held in 1996 announced that they would cooperate in achieving global food security and halving the malnourished population of the world by 2015. In view of this goal, it is necessary for Japan to actively support developing countries in their efforts to increase food production. Furthermore, assistance for the agricultural sector, including assistance for food production and rural development, can play a crucial role in reducing poverty and achieving sustainable development.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Japan will provide materials and equipment for food production and support agricultural and fisheries production through the construction of irrigation and other facilities. In addition, Japan will support infrastructure development and distribution management for improving access to markets.
- Japan will emphasize support for varietal improvement and other agricultural and fishery technologies, and will provide assistance for the effective dissemination of these technologies.
- Japan will pay special attention to the organization of local residents and the improvement of administrative capacities with regard to the dissemination of agricultural and other technologies and the management of agricultural and other water resources.
- Japan will appropriately utilize food assistance as an important measure in cases of emergency.

(4) Energy

Global energy demand is projected to increase sharply as a result of economic development in Asia and other developing regions. As such, energy problems constitute a global-scale policy issue that is closely related to the response to global environmental problems and the achievement of sustainable development. Moreover, in many developing countries, securing access to adequate energy supplies constitutes a vital challenge in the realization of economic development. As Japan is

heavily dependent on the importation of energy and mineral resources, the provision of assistance in these fields is important for Japan from the perspective of ensuring stable resource supplies.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Japan will provide assistance to energy-related infrastructure projects that cannot readily attract private-sector investment and other official flows (OOF), including oil, natural gas, electric power, and liquefied coal development projects. Japan will also step up its support for the achievement of sustainable development through energy saving.
- To reduce the emission of greenhouse gases by developing countries while achieving sustainable development, Japan will support the following measures: energy saving, the utilization of solar and wind power and other renewable energy sources, the introduction of coal-related technologies with reduced environmental burden, and the preservation and development of forests as a source of firewood.
- In the area of mineral resources, Japan has provided technical and financial support for mining projects in major supplying countries while paying due attention to environmental concerns. With the growth of regional and international interest in environmental problems, Japan will continue to provide assistance and support, including support for environmental impact studies of mining projects.

(5) Drug Abuse

Both developed and developing countries face the issue of drug abuse. It is also essential to mount an internationally coordinated fight against drugs that includes the cooperation of pertinent international organizations. Drug abuse in developing countries is linked to the problem of poverty. As such, the fight against drugs must be pursued in combination with poverty alleviation measures. Based on this understanding, Japan has supported such activities as seminars on the prevention and control of drug abuse and drug-related crimes, the acceptance of overseas trainees, the promotion of substitute crops, and various related educational activities.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Japan will continue to cooperate with international initiatives to mount an effective fight against drugs. Japan will also emphasize support for improved crime-prevention and crime-control capabilities of authorities, cultivation of substitute crops, educational activities, and projects directly linked to raising living standards in drug-producing regions.

5. Support for Overcoming the Asian Currency and Economic Crisis and Promotion of Economic Structural Reform

In the course of the East Asian currency crisis that began in the summer of 1997, developing economies were seriously affected by the vast and rapid exit of private funds. The impact of this crisis extended to Japan and the remainder of the world's economy. The emergency financial needs of Asian countries were met by the flow of official funds, including the facilities of the New Miyazawa Initiative (launched in October 1998), and the Asian economies are now stabilizing. In addition to these emergency measures, structural reform must be supported for sustaining recovery over the medium term in order to realize a strong recovery in real economic activities. Moreover, in view of the mutually important ties between Japan and this region, such assistance will serve to bolster the Japanese economy as well. Furthermore, encouraging the flow of private funds to these countries and supporting their economic recovery will also contribute to achievement of sound and sustainable global economic development.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Japan will continue its support for infrastructure development, technology transfer, development of small- and medium-sized enterprises, and the nurturing of supporting industries, while emphasizing coordination and the division of roles and responsibilities with other official flows.
- Japan will cooperate with international financial institutions to return Asian and other developing countries to a path of economic reconstruction. Similarly, to achieve a recovery in real economic activities in developing countries, Japan will focus on supporting vulnerable members of society through the development of social safety nets and will also provide support for institutional transformation, including the reform of legal systems, the financial sector, and various economic systems.
- As the rehabilitation of industries is an urgent issue, Japan will utilize the Special Yen loan facilities to undertake infrastructure projects with outstanding economic-stimulation and employment-creating effects. Japan will support economic structural reform through these facilities, which are aimed at creating a more attractive economic environment for private investment and improving productivity.*¹⁹
- In addition to coping with the crisis, Japan will support preventive measures such as the reinforcement of domestic financial systems, the training of core personnel, and the improvement of corporate management and technical capabilities.

6. Conflict, Disaster, and Development

(1) Conflict and Development

The end of the Cold War did not bring an end to the regional conflicts that continue to create serious human rights problems and wreak havoc on the environment, thereby eroding the gains of past development efforts. Conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict peacekeeping and reconstruction represent crucial challenges to the global community. For example, Japan has provided assistance to the Palestinian people in connection with the Middle Eastern peace process.*²⁰ Henceforth, Japan must play an active role in conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- For the purpose of conflict prevention, Japan will emphasize measures aimed at the problems of poverty and socially vulnerable populations which provide the backdrop for conflict. Similarly, Japan will focus on "good governance," including the equitable and appropriate distribution of resources; the protection of human rights; the establishment of appropriate political and economic systems and processes; and the reinforcement of administrative capacities.
- With regard to the problem of refugees resulting from conflicts, Japan will actively provide emergency humanitarian aid to assist neighboring countries affected by the influx of refugees.*²¹ In this process, Japan will pay due attention to the important role played by NGOs.
- With regard to post-conflict peace-keeping and reconstruction, Japan will actively support the resettlement and social rehabilitation of refugees and former combatants.
- Japan will support the establishment of equitable political and economic systems and the reinforcement of administrative capacities. Similarly, Japan will provide assistance for the development of infrastructure indispensable to national integration and economic reconstruction.

Anti-personnel landmines placed in regions of conflict and left underground present a serious and indiscriminate threat to the general populace. They are a grave concern, not only because they have been causing indiscriminate and various casualties (casualties) among civilians but they also present a serious barrier to post-conflict reconstruction and development, thereby preventing the resettlement of people and rural development, among other problems. In March 1997, Japan hosted the Tokyo Conference on Anti-Personnel Landmines which resulted in the "Tokyo Guidelines," including the ultimate goal of achieving "Zero Victims." In December

1997, Japan proposed its "Zero Victim Pro-gram"*²² for the clearance of anti-personnel landmines and the support of victims.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Japan will support landmine clearance through the provision of clearance-related equipment and other measures.
- Japan will act to strengthen emergency medical and rehabilitation systems.
- Japan will provide support to landmine victims through social rehabilitation and job training programs.
- Japan will emphasize cooperation with other donor countries, international organizations, and NGOs.

(2) Disaster Prevention and Post-Disaster Reconstruction

Natural disasters can destroy the livelihoods of people and most seriously affect impoverished persons, whose livelihoods are particularly vulnerable. Abnormal climatic conditions in recent years have increased the incidence of natural disasters throughout the world. Japan has dispatched 46 Japan Disaster Relief Teams to 23 countries to provide emergency disaster aid and to cope with disaster-related humanitarian problems.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following forms of support.

- Drawing on its own experiences in countermeasures against landslides, floods, earthquakes and tidal waves, Japan will continue to actively provide emergency assistance for disasters and support for post-disaster reconstruction through the dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams and other means. Japan will also provide support for disaster prevention and land preservation.

7. Responding to Issues of Debt Relief

The economic development of the least developed countries of sub-Saharan Africa is seriously hampered by the problem of outstanding foreign debt, presenting a problem that cannot be ignored by the international community. Japan has provided active support for debt rescheduling and grant aid for debt relief.*²³

In light of the decision taken at the Cologne Summit in June 1999,*²⁴ Japan will cooperate with other donor countries and international organizations to provide assistance for the resolution of the debt problem so that heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and other low-income countries may achieve long-term economic self-reliance.

In light of the above, Japan will provide the following

forms of support.

- While emphasizing the efforts of debtor countries to repay their debts, Japan will extend substantial debt relief through rescheduling and grants-in-aid to cover repayments based on the international framework.
- Efforts will be made to allocate funds freed through debt relief to development goals, such as the alleviation of poverty; the provision of education, health, medical, and other social investments; and the creation of employment opportunities.
- As a rule, financial cooperation after debt relief will take the form of grants, as the provision of new loans is unlikely after debt relief.
- Japan will actively undertake technical cooperation (human resources development and intellectual support) to enhance debt-management capacities and facilitate appropriate macroeconomic management.
- Henceforth, Japan will exercise greater caution in the provision of Yen loans and will pay greater attention to the developmental stage and debt-servicing capabilities of recipient countries, while taking into careful consideration the development plans of the developing countries and Japan's own ODA policies.

III. Priority Issues and Sectors by Region

Japan has extended ODA to more than 150 countries and ranked as the top bilateral donor to 47 of these countries in 1996.*²⁵ Through ODA, Japan has made a major contribution to the development of numerous countries. For reasons of geographic proximity and historical and present ties, Japan's ODA assistance has traditionally been focused on the Asian region and will remain focused on those countries with whom Japan maintains close relations. At the same time, given the global expansion of economic interdependence and the need to take concerted international action to cope with such global-scale challenges as humanitarian problems and the maintenance of international stability and prosperity, Japan will continue its extension of aid to regions outside Asia.

1. East Asia

East Asia is a region of special focus for Japanese ODA, with Japan accounting for nearly 60% of the total bilateral aid to this region provided by DAC member countries during the five-year period beginning in 1992. Over the years, Japanese ODA has made a major contribution to economic growth in

this region through human resources development and social and economic infrastructure building. Similarly, Japan has contributed to alleviating the problems of poverty and environmental pollution through its assistance for social development and environmental conservation.

Japan enjoys close economic and other forms of ties with East Asia and will continue to provide appropriate forms of assistance in line with the highly diverse levels of income, progress made toward market economy, the social situation, and the natural environmental conditions found among these countries. Southeast Asian countries have enjoyed high rates of economic growth in recent years, and it is highly important for Japan to provide assistance that will help these countries overcome their current difficulties, achieve economic recovery and maintain political and social stability. It is necessary for Japan to provide assistance designed to alleviate poverty and to support continued economic growth and the transition to market economies in low-income countries. China has a population of more than 1.2 billion and its development will have a major global impact. Therefore, it is important for Japan to support China's Open and Reform Policy while encouraging it to become a more constructive partner in the international community. Japan's assistance to China should also be focused on its efforts, such as the elimination of regional disparities and environmental problems. Recent developments in East Asia indicate a movement toward closer regional cooperation and a regional approach to development. Moreover, East Asia is witnessing the appearance of "emerging donors" who are starting their own programs for assistance to developing countries. It is necessary for Japan to provide appropriate forms of assistance to support and promote these positive developments.

In light of the above, Japan will provide assistance and support while emphasizing the following points.

- (1) Japan will provide support for economic structural adjustment to overcome the economic crisis and to achieve economic recovery.
- (2) Japan will provide active support to the socially vulnerable to improve their living standards and domestic conditions.
- (3) Japan will provide support for human resources development and institutional building to promote the development of supporting industries and appropriate social and economic management.
- (4) Japan will adjust its assistance to poverty alleviation programs, social and economic infrastructure development, environmental protection, and agricultural and rural development projects to conform to the needs and conditions of individual countries.

- (5) Japan will provide support for regional development initiatives such as ASEAN regional cooperation, APEC, Mekong basin development and for "South-South cooperation."^{*26}

2. Southwest Asia

Southwest Asia is home to the largest population of impoverished people in the world.^{*27} With the goals of the Development Partnership Strategy in mind, Japan will continue to focus on the region's poverty problems, provide assistance designed to encourage economic liberalization in the countries of the region, and promote regional cooperation based on economic cooperation. Following underground nuclear testing by India and Pakistan in May 1998, Japan had no alternative but to fundamentally review its assistance policies toward both countries. In continuing to seek positive reactions from India and Pakistan in the area of nuclear non-proliferation, it is necessary for Japan to continue dialogue with both nations.

In light of the above, Japan will provide assistance and support while emphasizing the following points.

- (1) Japan will provide support for alleviating poverty and ensuring the livelihood of the poor (focusing on assistance for basic human needs, including health and medical services, primary education, and agricultural and rural development).
- (2) Japan will provide support for human resources development and social and economic infrastructure development in order to revitalize private-sector activities and to create a more attractive environment for foreign investment.
- (3) Japan will provide support for environmental conservation to cope with the increasing environmental burden created by population and economic growth.

3. Central Asia and the Caucasus

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the countries of this region have pursued democratization and the establishment of market economies. However, the region remains beset by political and economic instability caused by vulnerable economic structures, growing unemployment and social instability, ethnic conflicts, and territorial disputes. Japan has actively endeavored to assist this region and was successful in calling for the inclusion of these nations into DAC's list of aid-receiving countries. In view of the geopolitical significance of this region and the importance of access to its energy resources, it is vital for Japan to continue to promote its "Silk

Road diplomacy"^{*28} and provide support for the achievement of stability in the region.

In light of the above, Japan will provide assistance and support while emphasizing the following points.

- (1) Japan will provide support for social and economic infrastructure development to help build the foundation for self-reliant economic development.
- (2) Japan will provide assistance for human resources development and institution building to support the process of democratization and transition to market economies.
- (3) Japan will provide support for the alleviation of social problems and difficulties encountered in the process of reform and for the transition from the negative legacy of the Soviet period (e.g. support for environmental pollution countermeasures and for radiation victims of Semipalatinsk).

4. The Middle East

As Japan's principal source of petroleum imports, the Middle East is an extremely important factor in Japan's economic stability. Furthermore, developments in the Middle East peace process and the situation regarding Iraq could have a major impact on world peace and stability. Japan continues to actively provide support for the social stabilization of this region and for the improvement of the environment for peace. Adequate access to water resources constitutes a critical factor in maintaining the region's stability. While the countries of the Middle East, consisting of both oil-producing countries and less-developed countries, represent a diverse range of economic conditions, the training of domestic engineers and other human resources stands as a critical challenge in the strategies for economic diversification and development of non-petroleum sectors.

In light of the above, Japan will provide assistance and support while emphasizing the following points.

- (1) Japan will provide support for the Middle East peace process (through assistance to the Palestinians as well as to neighboring Arab countries and support for initiatives related to multilateral negotiations).
- (2) In relatively low-income countries, Japan will provide support for social and economic infrastructure development, including agricultural and water-resources development.
- (3) In the relatively high-income Gulf states, Japan will provide technical cooperation for the training and education of domestic engineers for the achievement of economic diversification and the development of non-petroleum sectors and provide appropriate support for the development

of a favorable environment for attracting foreign investment.

- (4) Japan will provide support for environmental conservation measures in relatively high-income countries and other countries as well.

5. Africa

Various favorable developments have been witnessed in Africa during recent years. These include moves toward democratization, greater stability in southern Africa, and a growing number of countries enjoying steady economic growth. However, numerous African countries continue to face serious problems that hamper their development. These include exclusion from the process of economic globalization, local conflicts, and the spread of AIDS. The majority of African countries are LLDCs, and many are heavily indebted poor countries. It is widely acknowledged that support for efforts toward the resolution of the problems of Africa calls for a concerted international effort.

Japan is committed to reinforcing this awareness and to working toward the establishment of international partnerships to support the self-help efforts of African nations. For this purpose, Japan, in collaboration with the United Nations and other organizations, hosted the Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD II) in Tokyo in October 1998.

Based on the policies enunciated in the Development Partnership Strategy, TICAD II produced the "Tokyo Agenda for Action," featuring a commitment to developing the self-reliance of African countries, strengthening cooperation and coordination with the industrial countries and international organizations, and promoting Asian-African cooperation. Henceforth, it is the responsibility of both African countries and the international community to act on the "Tokyo Agenda for Action" and realize its goals. It is important for Japan to coordinate its assistance efforts with international initiatives, such as the Special Program of Assistance for Africa (SPA) which the World Bank and other donors are promoting.

In light of the above, Japan will provide assistance and support while emphasizing the following points.

- (1) Japan will provide support for poverty alleviation, social development,^{*29} and the countering of desertification.
- (2) Japan will provide support for human resources development and capacity building in policy formulation and implementation.
- (3) Japan will provide support for the development of the private-sector, industry, and agriculture for the achievement of economic self-reliance in Africa (e.g. transfer of the

results and experiences of Asian development to Africa through South-South cooperation, basic infrastructure development for improved productivity in agriculture and other industries, and intra-regional cooperation).

- (4) Japan will provide support for democratization, conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction in order to provide the foundation for African stability.
- (5) Japan will provide support for the reduction of debt burdens (taking into consideration the commitment of the debtor country toward structural reform when making decisions on assistance).

6. Latin America and the Caribbean

Since the beginning of the 1990s, Latin American countries have achieved significant progress as emerging market economies through the process of democratization and economic reform. Food- and energy-resource rich countries can look forward to the further development of countries in this region in the 21st century as strategic suppliers of food and energy resources.

The large number of Japanese migrants and their descendants have played an important role in promoting development in Latin America. In view of the fact that these migrants traditionally have acted as bridges between Japan and Latin America, it is important for Japan to support their efforts.

In view of the development of Pan-Pacific cooperation in recent years, the provision of assistance to the Pacific Basin region is growing in importance. Furthermore, due attention should be paid to the fact that effective support for promoting regional integration is needed in the Southern Cone common market (MERCOSUR), as well as in the Caribbean and Central American countries.

It must be borne in mind that economic development and democratization can be seriously hampered where basic social and economic infrastructures remain underdeveloped and extremes of wealth and poverty persist.

The Central American countries that sustained heavy hurricane damage during 1998 require support for the urgent task of restoration and reconstruction.

In light of the above, Japan will provide assistance and support while emphasizing the following points.

- (1) Japan will provide active support for democratization and economic reform.
- (2) Japan will provide support for environmental conservation to protect the natural environment and to cope with the increased environmental burden resulting from economic growth.

- (3) Japan will provide support for the alleviation of poverty by assisting basic education programs, health and medical services, agriculture and rural development, and the development of a basic infrastructure for the reduction of regional disparities.
- (4) In relatively low-income countries, Japan will provide support for the development of the social and economic infrastructure in order to revitalize the private sector and promote overseas investment.
- (5) Japan will promote regional cooperation, including human resources development and technology transfer which targets two or more countries.

7. Oceania

Japan enjoys close ties with the Pacific island countries and depends on these countries for supplies of marine and forestry products. Because of their extremely small national scales and their marked dependence on primary products, these countries are particularly vulnerable to natural disasters, fluctuations in the international prices of primary products and other external factors. Development is further hampered by other factors, such as the dispersion of landmass over large areas, the limited scale of domestic markets and the distance from international markets. The provision of adequate health care services also poses a difficult challenge. On the other hand, the vast area of exclusive economic waters held by these island nations establishes them as promising sources of marine products and underwater mineral resources.

The countries of the region share an awareness of the need to achieve economic self-reliance through economic reform and private-sector development and are involved in reforming their fiscal and administrative systems.

In light of the above, Japan will provide assistance and support while emphasizing the following points.

- (1) Japan will provide support for social and economic infrastructure development (including health care services) to provide a foundation for social and economic activities and to overcome such island-nation problems as dispersion and geographic isolation.
- (2) Japan will provide support for economic structural reform.
- (3) Japan will provide support for human resources development for developing the private sector.
- (4) Japan will provide support for environmental conservation.
- (5) Japan will promote regional cooperation, including the use of remote education for human resources development and technology transfer which targets two or more countries in the region.

8. Europe

Many of the former Soviet-bloc countries of Central and Eastern Europe are currently in the process of transforming to market economies, and it is necessary to support the efforts of these countries. The achievement and maintenance of peace through post-conflict restoration and reconstruction, such as in the former-Yugoslav region, constitutes an international challenge to which Japan will provide its share of assistance.

In light of the above, Japan will provide assistance and support while emphasizing the following points.

- (1) Japan will provide support for the transition to a market economy, for environmental conservation, and for infrastructure restoration and development.
- (2) Japan will provide humanitarian aid to refugees, economic and social infrastructure development for the promotion of restoration and reconstruction, assistance in the area of basic human needs, and support for the implementation of elections in the former-Yugoslav region and neighboring countries.

IV. Methods of Aid

Implementation of ODA calls for collaboration and coordination among government ministries and agencies, as well as the active utilization of the experience and know-how of the private sector, NGOs, local governments, labor and management groups, and other entities. Likewise, active measures will be taken to promote cooperation and collaboration with other donor countries and international organizations. Furthermore, active support must be given to encouraging and expanding South-South cooperation.

1. Coordination of ODA Programs within the Japanese Government, among Implementing Agencies and with Various Schemes for Aid

-A more effective and efficient system for collaboration and coordination covering the entire government will be created by promoting the sharing of information and a better mutual understanding among government ministries and agencies involved in ODA, through upgrading the level of communications (e.g. the improvement of liaison meetings) among government offices.

-The advantages of the various forms of financial and technical cooperation will be optimally utilized while promoting organic interaction among them. In this process, grassroots grant aid deserves special attention as a form of

assistance that directly reaches the people of the recipient country. As such, efforts will be made to expand and more effectively utilize grassroots grant aid for projects, while paying due attention to synergy with other forms of assistance.

-The implementation of cooperation will be centered on the Japan International Cooperation Agency while fully utilizing the knowledge, know-how, and personnel of various government ministries and agencies. Efforts will be made to achieve effective and efficient collaboration and coordination between the Japan International Cooperation Agency and various government ministries and agencies.

2. Coordination with Other Official Flows (OOF) and with the Private Sector

Private-sector trade and investment is playing an increasingly important role in the economic development of developing countries. In light of this fact, due attention will be paid to the following points.

-Due attention will be paid to the division of roles and responsibilities with non-ODA other official flows (OOF),*³⁰ trade insurance, and private funds based on their respective objectives, while taking into account the needs and conditions of individual countries.

-Efforts will be made to fully utilize the knowledge and know-how of the Japanese private sector in promoting collaboration with the private sector and due attention will be paid to increasing opportunities of Japanese businesses to participate in ODA projects.

-With regard to developing countries that have achieved accelerated economic growth and that are experiencing substantial inflows of private funds, projects suited to private-sector investment and OOF will be consigned to such forms of cooperation or activities. ODA will be focused on social development and poverty alleviation and will also emphasize the following points.

- Assistance will be provided to economic infrastructure projects that are unsuited to private-sector investment or OOF.
- To promote private-sector investments in projects with strong impacts on development, assistance will be provided to project portions implemented by government organizations in the implementation of tasks deemed necessary for the execution of private-sector initiative projects.
- Support will be provided for the strengthening of human resources development and policy formulation capacity building that contributes to market economy management.

- Support will be provided to strengthen industrial structure through the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises.

- Support will be provided for correcting distortions caused in the process of economic development, including environmental problems and regional disparities.

-With regard to developing countries whose private sectors are not fully functional, emphasis will be placed on ODA projects promoting the development of the private sector. Such initiatives would include infrastructure development for improving the investment environment and areas conducive to the development of the private sector, such as the development of institutions and systems, the upgrading of policy formulation capacities, the development of other private-sector capacities, and the development of basic human resources.

-The Japan Bank for International Cooperation, to be established in October 1999 through the merger of the Export-Import Bank of Japan and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, will draw on the information and know-how accumulated in both organizations to provide more effective assistance by designing ODA projects to match the social and economic conditions in the recipient countries and the special properties of the ODA project. In this way, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation will endeavor to add to the flexibility and efficiency of Japan's contributions to the international economic community. However, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation will clearly separate its ODA and non-ODA accounts.

3. Support to and Collaboration with NGOs

Social development projects, including poverty alleviation and environmental conservation, constitute a steadily increasing share of Japan's overall assistance to developing countries. For this reason, there is a growing demand for finely tuned assistance that directly reaches local populations. Consequently, NGOs have been playing an increasingly important role in the process of economic cooperation and there is a growing need for collaboration with NGOs in the implementation of ODA projects.

In light of the above, due attention will be paid to the following points.

-Efforts will be made to develop a dialogue and exchange views and ideas with NGOs active in developing countries, through such venues as the "NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting" and the "NGO-JICA Consultation Meeting."

-Efforts will be made to increase and enrich ODA support for

NGO aid activities.

- Collaboration and cooperation with NGOs will be strengthened through various means, such as the contracting-out of projects and the utilization of NGO personnel and know-how.
- Support will be provided to strengthen the base of Japanese NGOs involved in the implementation of aid activities.
- Efforts will be made to promote the participation of persons with experience in the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and NGO activities, in the implementation of ODA projects.

It is necessary to strengthen collaborative relations with local governments that have a wealth of technical know-how and experiences in fields closely linked to everyday life of the people or that are involved in personnel exchanges with developing countries through sister-city arrangements. The active utilization of the know-how of local governments can facilitate more effective assistance and is extremely beneficial in terms of developing public participation in aid activities.

In light of the above, due attention will be paid to the following points.

- Efforts will be made to actively utilize the experience, know-how, and personnel of local governments and to effectively support the cooperative activities of local governments.

4. Coordination with Other Donor Countries and International Organizations

In order to achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency in ODA implementation, it is necessary for Japan to develop closer ties of collaboration and cooperation with other donor countries and international organizations. Such initiatives must go beyond the avoidance of redundancy in aid and must aim to achieve significant synergy. In this process, it is also important to assist developing countries to enhance their coordinating capacities as aid recipients.

In light of the above, due attention will be paid to the following points.

- As a leading contributor of funds to international organizations, Japan will endeavor to take greater initiative and to influence the management of these organizations in the direction of its basic policies.
- Japan will pursue the possibility of collaboration and cooperation with other donor countries and international organizations in fields where those countries and organizations are especially experienced and enjoy advantages.
- With regard to the coordination of ODA programs, Japan will

continue to participate in and contribute to existing coordination mechanisms, including sector programs coordination, which center on international organizations, taking into consideration the primary role of recipient countries.*³¹

- Japan will actively promote cooperation through collaboration and the exchange of information and opinions with governments of recipient countries, other donor countries, and aid agencies. Japan will also pursue this objective through bilateral consultation with other donor countries, such as through the Japan-US Common Agenda,*³² and through collaboration with international organizations.

5. Support for South-South Cooperation

The development of developing countries is a challenge that should be addressed by the entire international community. As such, donor nations should not be limited to industrial countries. Rather, it is desirable for more advanced developing countries and developing countries with adequate experiences and technologies to actively participate in helping other developing countries. This form of assistance will contribute to bolstering global aid resources and will also stimulate intra- and inter-regional cooperation.

Development assistance provided by developing countries, or "South-South cooperation,"*³³ can be particularly effective in facilitating the transfer of technologies between countries at similar stages of development or that have common backgrounds, such as language and culture. Moreover, South-South cooperation can result in significant cost reductions when undertaken between neighboring countries.

In light of the above, due attention will be paid to the following points.

- Japan will actively support South-South cooperation, as this is a form of international cooperation in which the developing countries are taking the initiative.

V. Points to be Followed in the Implementation and Management of ODA

1. Understanding of the Conditions in Individual Developing Countries and the Formulation of Country Assistance Programs

- To enhance the impact of ODA, Japan will endeavor to develop a better understanding of the specific conditions in individual developing countries and to provide forms of assistance that match the needs and conditions of developing countries. For this purpose, Japan will actively undertake various types of studies and promote policy dialogue with developing countries.
- Through the coordination of the pertinent ministries and government agencies, Japan will formulate "country assistance programs" based on current "country assistance policies." These country assistance programs will be formulated for major recipient countries of Japanese ODA and will specify the significance of the assistance provided by Japan, its basic objectives, the priority issues and fields, and the form of assistance to be deployed. These formulations will be based on a time frame of approximately five years.
- Country assistance programs will take an integrated approach to all forms of assistance and will take into account coordination and collaboration with other donor countries and international organizations, and collaboration with the private sector.
- Japanese diplomatic missions and the local offices of ODA implementing agencies will be more actively utilized, as they are in the best position to grasp the situations of and needs in developing countries.

2. Preliminary Studies, Environmental Considerations, Monitoring of Implementation, and Ex-Post Evaluation

(1) Preliminary Studies and Environmental Considerations

- To enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of ODA, preliminary studies will be conducted in accordance with country assistance programs to identify, formulate, and select appropriate projects. This process will be coordinated by maintaining close contact among related offices and, where applicable, the necessary adjustments will be made to avoid redundancies in preliminary studies conducted by ministries, government agencies, and related organizations.
- When necessary, rigorous examinations will be undertaken in accordance with environmental guidelines to assess the

impact of assistance projects on the environment and regional communities. Appropriate measures will be taken in response to the findings. Depending on the assessed environmental impact, a proposed project may be canceled. To ensure that the proposed project contributes appropriately to sustainable development, alternative proposals will be formulated when necessary.

- In taking environmental matters into consideration, due attention will be paid to the importance of local participation and information disclosure in line with existing systems and situations in recipient countries. Procedures and standards pertaining to environmental considerations will be reviewed and improved as necessary.

(2) Monitoring

- Monitoring of project implementation and progress will be upgraded and strengthened. When problems arise during implementation, efforts will be made to achieve the expected results by utilizing various available forms of assistance and by ensuring their coordination.

(3) Ex-Post Evaluation

- Ex-post evaluation of completed projects, including identification and assessment of environmental impact, will be conducted in as many cases as possible, with results being made public.
- To improve the objectivity of the evaluation process, evaluations by experts, NGOs, other third parties, and persons from recipient countries evaluations will be expanded.
- In addition to determining whether a project purpose has been achieved, an evaluation will be directed at the impact on local and regional communities, the environment, and macroeconomic conditions.
- Follow-up actions will be taken as required by evaluation results. Efforts will be made to provide feedback on the evaluation results so that relevant lessons can be incorporated into future project formulation.
- Efforts will be made to create better evaluation systems by developing and introducing effective evaluation methods corresponding to the specific features of assistance projects.

3. Human Resources for Development Cooperation

Successful implementation of assistance ultimately depends on the skills of people. Thus, the availability and utilization of individuals with appropriate skills stands as extremely important requirement for the efficient implementation

of assistance. Efficient implementation should involve both the employment of experts with outstanding knowledge and skills in specific fields and undertakings, and the use of local experts with specialized knowledge of local conditions. Furthermore, it is necessary to maintain effective communications and collaborate with personnel on project sites, local executing agencies, and educational institutions.

In light of the above, due attention will be paid to the following points.

-Further efforts will be made to train human resources for development. Personnel exchanges with other donor countries and with international organizations will be promoted, including the dispatch of personnel to international organizations and joint participation in studies. Likewise, personnel exchanges among implementing agencies and educational institutions will be promoted.

-In order to respond more effectively to the growing diversity of demand for assistance and changes in forms and methods of assistance, efforts will be made to train and support individuals with high levels of expertise. University and graduate school internship programs will be utilized for this purpose and the mutual recognition of academic credits among development-related courses will be promoted.

-To ensure access to experts with specialized knowledge and skills, the public recruitment of experts will be stepped up and larger numbers of personnel will be recruited from local governments, NGOs, universities, and other institutions.

-Active use will be made of private-sector consultants and, where necessary, efforts will be made to strengthen their skills.

4. Promoting Public Understanding and Participation

To establish broader understanding and support for ODA, it will be necessary to promote public relations activities, the disclosure of information both domestically and abroad, and enlist the cooperation of the various strata of society and organizations in project implementation. From the perspective of increasing national involvement in and visibility of Japanese aid, it will be extremely important to expand Japan's personnel contribution to the international community by effectively utilizing Japan's own human resources.

In light of the above, due attention will be paid to the following points.

-Efforts will be made to enlist the cooperation and participation of private enterprises, local governments, NGOs, labor and management organizations, and other members of

society in the implementation of ODA.

-Given the growing interest of the Japanese public in development assistance, the cooperation and participation of various age groups, extending from youth to senior citizens, will be enlisted in the implementation of ODA.

-In addition to providing support for NGO activities, ODA projects and related tasks will be more extensively consigned to NGOs, universities, think tanks and other organizations. Similarly, efforts will be made to further promote the participation of local governments in development projects.

-Efforts will be made to increase public relations for Japan's ODA activities, both domestically and abroad.

5. Promoting Information Disclosure

Japan's disclosure of ODA information has received high marks in the international community as evidenced by the "Peer Review Report on Japan's ODA" (1995) compiled by the OECD's DAC. However, further progress must be made in disclosing information to the public in order to gain support and understanding.

In light of the above, due attention will be paid to the following points.

-From the perspective of providing access to integrated information, efforts will be made to improve the content of annual reports on Japan's ODA.

-Further efforts will be made to disclose information pertaining to project tender processes and individual projects.

-Transparency of assistance will be improved through the preparation and publication of a long list of ODA loan candidate projects.

-In addition to expanding the scope of information disclosure, efforts will be made to render the information more understandable and easier to use. For this purpose, the available of ODA information over the Internet will be expanded.

-Information will be supplied to the national media as well as to the local media and local communities.

-In view of the fact that the public does not have direct access to overseas ODA sites, efforts will be made to create opportunities enabling the Japanese public to come into contact with ODA projects.

Japan's Medium-Term Policy on ODA: Explanatory Notes

Introduction

***1: Official Development Assistance Charter (ODA Charter)**

The ODA Charter, approved by Cabinet on June 30, 1992, constitutes the most important basic document concerning Japan's ODA policies. It was formulated to clarify Japan's ODA philosophy and principles and is based on past achievements, experiences, and lessons. The Charter consists of six sections covering the following areas: basic philosophy, principles, priorities, measures for effective ODA implementation, measures for promoting understanding and support at home and abroad, and the ODA implementation system. The following four key elements are identified under "basic philosophy": (1) humanitarian considerations, (2) recognition of global interdependence, (3) the importance of self-help efforts, and (4) environmental conservation. Under "principles," Japan commits itself to the following four points while "taking into comprehensive account each recipient country's requests, socioeconomic conditions, and Japan's bilateral relations with the recipient country": (1) environmental conservation and development should be pursued in tandem, (2) use of ODA for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts should be avoided, (3) full attention should be paid to trends in recipient countries' military expenditures, their development and production of weapons of mass destruction and missiles, and the export and import of arms, and (4) full attention should be paid to efforts for promoting democratization and the introduction of a market-oriented economy and to the situation regarding the securing of basic human rights and freedoms.

I. Basic Approaches

***2: OECD/DAC "Development Partnership Strategy"**

In May 1996, the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) adopted a document entitled "Development Partnership Strategy (Shaping the 21st Century: The Contribution of Development Cooperation)," which identified certain goals and objectives for development assistance in the 21st century. The document aims to improve the living standards of all humankind and sets forth concrete goals and schedules for the achievement of these goals. The

specific goals are as follows: (1) by 2015, a reduction by one-half of the proportion of people living in extreme poverty, (2) universal primary education in all countries by 2015, (3) elimination of gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005, (4) reduction by two-thirds in infant mortality rates by 2015, (5) reduction by three-fourths in maternal mortality rates by 2015, (6) access to reproductive health services by 2015, (7) formulation of national strategies for sustainable development by 2005, and (8) reversal of the deterioration in environmental resources by 2015. The document states that cooperation between the advanced and developing countries is indispensable to the achievement of these goals, and emphasizes the importance of global partnership.

***3: Least among Less-Developed Countries (LLDC)**

LLDC refers to the least developed group of developing countries and is defined by the United Nations Development Program Committee on the following basis: per capita GDP (below \$899 as of 1999), human resources development (average life expectancy, etc.), and vulnerability of economic structure (share of manufacturing in GDP, etc.). Currently, 48 countries are recognized as LLDCs (33 countries in Africa, eight in Asia, five in the Pacific, and two elsewhere).

II. Priority Issues and Sectors

1. Support for Poverty Alleviation Programs and Social Development

***4: "20/20 Initiative" for Social Development**

Under this initiative, developing countries are to commit 20% of their national budget, and developed countries 20% of their ODA, to such areas in social development as to be given priority to human development (basic education, basic health services, drinking water, family planning, etc.). Proposed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), it was decided at the World Summit for Social Development (hosted by the United Nations in March 1995) that the goals of the 20/20 Initiative would be implemented by countries in agreement with the initiative's objective. Japan has met the goal of this initiative, as the annual share of social development commitments in its bilateral development assistance has exceeded the 20% mark in every year from 1993 to 1998.

***5: Initiative for a Caring World**

Proposed by then Prime Minister Hashimoto at the Lyon Summit in June 1996, the "Initiative for a Caring World" is

aimed at finding solutions to the problems of various countries by sharing the knowledge and experiences of developed, as well as developing, countries concerning social security policies, covering such areas as public sanitation, health insurance, and pension systems.

Current projects targeting the developing countries include: promoting measures for global parasitic disease control; sharing of knowledge and experiences through international conferences for high-level administrators of social security; and, personnel training, dispatch of experts and acceptance of trainees for promoting the development of social security systems in developing countries.

***6: Women in Development (WID)**

WID refers to "women in development." For details, see section (3) Women in Development (WID)/Gender in Developing Countries.

(1) Basic Education

***7: Japan's support for construction of school buildings**

In the five-year period beginning in fiscal 1993, Japan provided assistance for the construction of approximately 16,000 school buildings. In Jordan, for instance, Yen loans have been used in the construction of 9% of all primary and secondary school buildings. In Nepal, Japanese grant assistance has been used to provide materials needed for the construction of school buildings, with entire communities participating in the actual construction work. Following this initiative, elementary school enrollment ratios in Nepal climbed from 64% in 1990 to 75% in 1994.

***8: Japan's contributions to United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) activities for the education of girls**

Since fiscal 1993, Japan has annually contributed U.S.\$1 million to UNICEF related activities.

(2) Health and Medical Care

***9: Incidence of polio**

The annual global incidence of polio has dropped from approximately 35,000 cases in 1988 to approximately 3,200 cases in 1998. Japan has identified East Asia and the Pacific region as priority areas for assistance in polio control. Since fiscal 1993, Japan has implemented assistance totaling approximately ¥2.8 billion for providing polio vaccines, cold chain portable refrigerator for vaccines storage, and diagnostic and monitoring equipment. (This assistance amounts to approximately 35% of all assistance provided to these regions in the fight against polio.) As a result of these efforts, polio

has been almost totally eliminated from these regions.

2. Support for Economic and Social Infrastructure

***10: Examples of Japanese assistance in Asia**

In the fields of transportation and communications, Japan's Yen loans accounted for 38% of the total electrification of China's railways, approximately 32% of the construction of the highways in Bangkok, approximately 15% of the installation of all telephone lines in the Philippines, and the construction and expansion of the port of Colombo, which handles approximately 89% of all cargo shipments in Sri Lanka. In the area of energy, Japan has cooperated in the construction of about 24% of all power generating facilities in Malaysia, 18% in Indonesia, 15% in Thailand, 44% in Vietnam, 18% in Bangladesh, and 20% in Egypt. Japanese ODA has accounted for 60% of the water supply facilities in the city of Jakarta, and 56% of the sewerage treatment facilities in the Republic of Korea.

3. Human Resources Development and Intellectual Support

(1) Human Resources Development

***11: Human resources development**

Since 1954, Japan has accepted more than 160,000 trainees. The geographic distribution of trainees accepted during fiscal 1997 (totaling 7,263 persons from 152 countries and regions) is as follows: 6,214 from Asia (50.6% of total), 2,381 from Latin America (19.4%), 1,046 from the Middle East (8.5%), and 1,602 from Africa (13%). Distribution by field is as follows: 2,440 in human resources development (19.9% of total), 2,340 in planning and administration (19.1%), 2,049 in public and public-sector enterprises (16.7%), 1,971 in agriculture, forestry and fisheries (16%), 1,398 in health and medical services (11.4%), and 991 in mining (8.1%).

***12: Third-country training**

Third-country training refers to the acceptance of trainees by developing countries under financial and technical assistance from Japan. Such arrangements provide the advantage of training in neighboring countries with similar social and cultural environments. For instance, using technologies transferred from Japan, third-country training was provided in Thailand to trainees from Vietnam and Laos with Japan supporting this transfer of technologies from Thailand to third countries. During fiscal 1997, some 1,836 trainees participated in third-country training programs offered in 23 countries, including Thailand and Singapore in Asia, and Brazil, Chile, and Egypt.

(3) Support for Democratization

***13: Support for democratization**

At the Lyon Summit held in 1996, Japan announced its initiative for "Partnership for Democratic Development" (PDD) aimed at supporting the democratization of developing countries. Specific forms of assistance include assistance for elections, reinforcement of civil society and human resources development. During the five-year period beginning in fiscal 1994, Japan has accepted 765 trainees in the field of democratization and has provided financial assistance to elections in 27 countries and regions.

4. Responding to Global Issues

(1) Environmental Conservation

***14: Environmental ODA**

At the 1992 United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (the so-called "Earth Summit" held in Rio de Janeiro), Japan announced that it would increase its environmental ODA commitments to between ¥900 billion and ¥1,000 billion for the period of fiscal 1992-1996. The actual amount of assistance came to approximately ¥1,440 billion during this period. This trend has continued in recent years. For example, of the 28 projects contained in Japan's fourth ODA loan package for China, 16 projects are focused on the environment in response to environmental deterioration triggered by economic growth. Japan is also promoting the "Japan-China Environmental Model Cities Plan" (covering the three cities of Chongqing, Gui Yang, and Dalian). The aim of this initiative is to develop successful examples of air pollution control and air quality improvement and present these as model cases for the rest of China.

***15: The Kyoto Initiative (Assistance to Developing Countries for Combating Global Warming)**

In view of the third session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Kyoto in December 1997, Japan committed itself to environmental ODA initiatives focused on the problem of global warming as follows: (1) capacity development in fields relevant to global warming, (2) provision of Yen loans related to global warming on the most concessional conditions, and (3) provision of Japanese technology and experiences (know-how). In fiscal 1998, the most favorable ODA loan terms were applied to 20 global-warming related projects amounting to ¥243.3 billion, while about 1,000 people received JICA technical training in related fields.

(2) Population and AIDS

***16: Trends in world population**

According to the joint United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the world population is projected to grow from about six billion in 1998 to more than eight billion by 2025. Most of this growth will occur in developing countries.

***17: People living with HIV/AIDS**

According to the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Health Organization (WHO), there were approximately 33.4 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the world as of the end of 1998, and approximately 2.5 million people died of AIDS during 1998.

***18: Global Issues Initiative on Population and AIDS (GII)**

Japan announced GII as an independent initiative in 1994, which involved the commitment of approximately \$3 billion in population and AIDS-related assistance to developing countries during a seven-year period beginning in fiscal 1994. From the perspective of reproductive health, GII contains direct assistance for population and family planning. In addition, GII supports a comprehensive approach to basic health and medical services, primary education for women and children, and the empowerment of women. In Indonesia, for instance, a project has been implemented that uses "mother and child health handbooks," which has resulted in lower maternal and infant mortality rates. As of the end of fiscal 1998, the cumulative amount of GII-related assistance reached approximately \$3.7 billion to already exceed the seven-year goal established in 1994.

5. Support for Overcoming the Asian Currency and Economic Crisis and Promotion of Economic Structural Reform

***19: Special Yen loans to assist economic structural reform**

This scheme was announced in December 1998 at the Meeting between ASEAN Heads of State/Government and the Leaders of Peoples Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. The aim of the scheme is to stimulate the economies of Asian countries, to promote job creation, and to support infrastructure development conducive to economic structural reform. This program features a special facility of a maximum total of ¥600 billion to be provided over a three-year period on concessional terms. For the time being, the interest rate will be set at 1%, with a repayment period of 40 years.

6. Conflict, Disaster, and Development

(1) Conflict and Development

***20: Japan's assistance to Palestine**

Over a five-and-half-year period beginning in 1993, Japan provided \$436 million in assistance to the Palestinian people. Assistance was provided through international organizations for strengthening administrative organizations, for the development of water and sewerage facilities, school building and other infrastructure projects, and improvement of education and basic health care services. In 1996, Japan began providing direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority and has provided a wide range of assistance toward improving living standards. In October 1997 and June 1998, Japan decided to assist in the construction of ten primary and secondary schools in the Gaza Strip.

***21: Recent Japanese humanitarian aid: aid for Kosovo**

In April 1999, a Japan aid package of approximately \$200 million for Kosovo was channeled through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other multilateral and bilateral means. This contribution is intended as humanitarian assistance for Kosovo refugees and displaced persons, assistance for affected neighboring countries, and support for the reconstruction of Kosovo.

***22: Anti-personnel landmine clearance and support for victims**

On a monthly basis, there are approximately 2,000 landmine casualties among non-combatants throughout the world. In September 1997, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction was adopted. The Tokyo Conference on Anti-Personnel Landmines, held in March 1997, adopted the Tokyo Guidelines for achieving "zero victims." To work toward the achievement of this goal, in November 1997 Japan announced that it would provide approximately \$10 billion in assistance over a five-year period beginning in 1998.

7. Responding to Issues of Debt Relief

***23: Grant aid for debt relief**

In accordance with the resolution adopted in 1978 by the Ninth Trade Development Board (TDB) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Japan has been providing grant aid for debt relief to LLDCs with whom Japan has ODA loan arrangements, and to the countries

most seriously affected by the oil crisis (MSAC). In the case of LLDCs, whenever repayments are received on Yen loans (according to loan arrangements signed during or before fiscal 1987), Japan provides scheme grants corresponding to the amount of principal and interest payments received. Japan has provided grant aid for debt relief amounting to approximately ¥340 billion in the period between fiscal 1978 and 1998.

***24: Cologne Summit decision on assistance to heavily indebted poor countries**

It was decided at the Cologne Summit that international debt relief should be provided to the most heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) under the existing framework for international debt relief (the so-called "HIPC Initiative"). The debt reduction ratio was increased to 100% in the case of bilateral ODA, and other measures of debt relief were expanded and improved.

III. Priority Issues and Sectors by Region

***25: Countries for which Japan is the leading ODA donor (1996)**

Japan is the leading ODA donor for 17 countries in Asia, five in the Middle East, six in Africa, 14 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and five in the Oceania region.

1. East Asia

***26: South-South Cooperation**

Refers to economic cooperation provided by relatively advanced developing economies in the South to other developing countries in the South. For details, see section IV, Methods of Aid 5. Support for South-South Cooperation. Third-country training described in explanatory note 11 is a typical form of support for South-South Cooperation.

2. Southwest Asia

***27: Impoverished population of Southwest Asia**

The impoverished population of Southwest Asia exceeds 500 million and is larger than that of sub-Saharan Africa (approximately 220 million). Of the seven Southwest Asian countries, four are recognized as LLDCs.

3. Central Asia and the Caucasus

***28: Silk Road diplomacy**

The "Silk Road region" covers five Central Asian countries and three countries of the Caucasus. The "Eurasian diplomatic initiative," announced in 1997 by the then prime Minister Hashimoto, presented Japan's policy of actively seeking to develop closer ties with this region. The principal points of the initiative are as follows: (1) promotion of political dialogue to strengthen mutual confidence and understanding, (2) economic assistance for supporting regional prosperity and assistance for development of resources, and (3) support for promoting peace through nuclear non-proliferation, democratization, and stabilization.

5. Africa

***29: Support for poverty alleviation programs and social development in Africa**

At TICAD II, held in October 1998, Japan announced that it would provide grant aid amounting to ¥90 billion over a five-year period for education, health and medical services, and water supply development.

IV. Methods of Aid

2. Coordination with Other Official Flows (OOF) and with the Private Sector

***30: Other Official Flows (OOF)**

This refers to non-ODA government-funded economic cooperation provided to developing countries. Included in OOF are export financing and loans for direct foreign investment provided to the private sector by the Export-Import Bank of Japan and the Bank of Japan's purchase of bonds issued by the World Bank.

4. Coordination with Other Donor Countries and International Organizations

***31: Sector program**

Under this approach, a recipient country takes the initiative in formulating a development plan for a specific sector (such as education, health and medical care). The plan is then discussed by the recipient country and the agencies of donor countries, and necessary adjustments are made.

***32: Japan-US Common Agenda**

This refers to common issues identified by Japan and the United States from a global perspective for assisting the development of developing countries. The Common Agenda, launched in July 1993, provides for joint Japan-US action with regard to global-scale problems such as the environment, population, and health and medical services. Currently, various types of projects are being implemented in 18 different fields, which come under the following four major concerns: "promoting health and human development," "responding to challenges to the stability of human society," "protection of the global environment," and "the advance of science and technology." Activities in these fields are reviewed in annual plenary meetings held at the deputy-ministerial level.

5. Support for South-South Cooperation

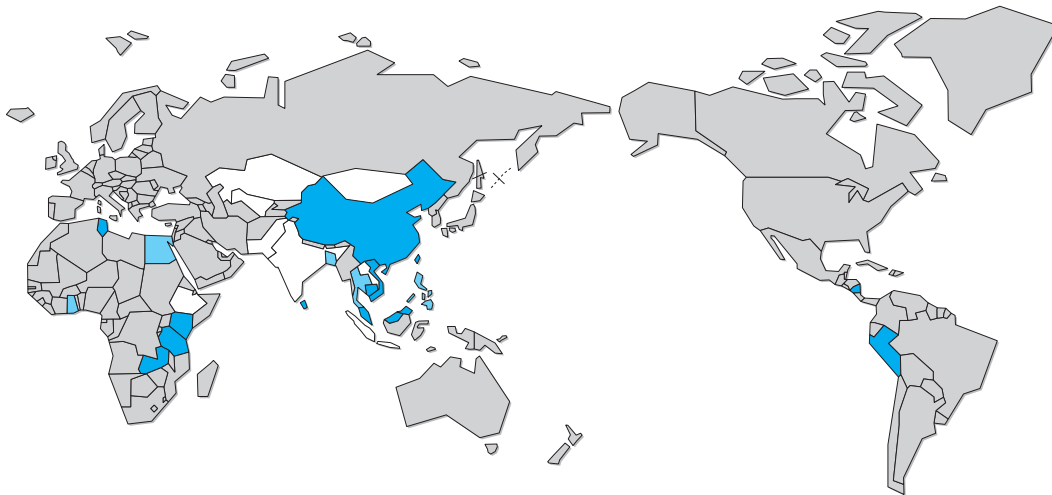
***33: Support for South-South Cooperation**

Japan has taken advantage of various opportunities to promote South-South cooperation. For instance, Japan held a meeting for "emerging donors" (developing countries who have made progress in economic development and are simultaneously aid recipients and aid donors) to discuss future directions. This South-South Cooperation Meeting was held in May 1998 in Okinawa. At the 2nd International Conference on African Development (TICAD II) hosted by Japan in October 1998, a decision was made to promote Asian-African cooperation as a concrete form of South-South cooperation. In fiscal 1997, Japan contributed \$4 million to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to support South-South cooperation through UNDP.

4. List of Country Assistance Programs

(As of the end of July 2004)

| Country | Date of formulation | Remarks |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Bangladesh | March 2000 | Under revision |
| Thailand | March 2000 | Under revision |
| Viet Nam | June 2000 | Revised in April 2004 |
| Egypt | June 2000 | Under revision |
| Ghana | June 2000 | Under revision |
| Tanzania | June 2000 | |
| Philippines | August 2000 | Under revision |
| Kenya | August 2000 | |
| Peru | August 2000 | |
| China | October 2001 | |
| Malaysia | February 2002 | |
| Cambodia | February 2002 | |
| Tunisia | October 2002 | |
| Zambia | October 2002 | |
| Nicaragua | October 2002 | |
| Sri Lanka | April 2004 | |



Notes: (1) Formulated : See the following website for details of country assistance programs:

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/kuni/index.html>

(2) Under formulation □: Mongolia, Indonesia, Pakistan, India, Laos, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Ethiopia.

(3) Under revision ■: Bangladesh, Ghana, Thailand, Egypt, and the Philippines.

5. History of Japan's Assistance to Developing Countries (1945 to August 2004)

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation | Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| | | Dec. 1945 | Bretton Woods Convention comes into effect. |
| | | Dec. 1945 | International Monetary Fund (IMF) and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD, "World Bank") are founded. |
| Jul. 1946 | Provision of food and medical supplies to Japan under the Government Aid and Relief in Occupied Areas (GARIOA) plan begins. | | |
| Aug. 1948 | Provision of material supplies to Japan under the Economic Rehabilitation in Occupied Areas (EROA) plan begins. | Jun. 1947 | European Recovery Program ("Marshall Plan") is announced. |
| | | Jan. 1949 | US announces Point Four Program. |
| | | Jan. 1949 | Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON) is established by the Soviet Union and five countries of Eastern Europe. |
| | | Apr. 1949 | North Atlantic Treaty is signed to establish NATO. |
| | | Jan. 1950 | Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic Development in South and Southeast Asia is inaugurated. |
| | | Jun. 1950 | Korean War begins. |
| Dec. 1950 | Export Bank of Japan is founded (renamed Export-Import Bank of Japan in April 1952). | Sep. 1951 | San Francisco Peace Treaty and Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between Japan and the United States of America are signed. |
| Aug. 1952 | Japan joins the World Bank and the IMF. | | |
| Aug. 1952 | A basic reparations policy is formulated. | | |
| Oct. 1953 | World Bank makes its first loans to Japan. | | |
| Apr. 1954 | Asian Cooperation Foundation is founded. | | |
| Oct. 1954 | Japan participates in the Colombo Plan. | | |
| Nov. 1954 | Japan-Burma Peace Treaty and the Agreement on Reparations and Economic Cooperation are signed. | | |
| Jul. 1955 | Agreement between Japan and Thailand concerning Settlement of "Special Yen Problem" is signed. | Apr. 1955 | Conference of African and Asian Nations is held in Bandung. |
| May. 1956 | Japan-Philippines Agreement on Reparations is signed. | Sep. 1955 | Japan joins the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). |
| Apr. 1957 | Preinvestment basic surveys start (prototype of development studies). | Dec. 1956 | Japan is granted membership to the United Nations. |
| Jan. 1958 | Japan-Indonesia Peace Treaty and the Agreement on Reparations and Economic Cooperation are signed. | Jan. 1958 | European Economic Community (EEC) is founded. |
| Feb. 1958 | Yen loans begin (Japan-India Exchange of Notes is signed). | | |
| Oct. 1958 | Japan-Laos Agreement on Economic and Technological Cooperation is signed. | Apr. 1958 | First Conference of Independent African Nations is held. |
| Mar. 1959 | Japan-Cambodia Agreement on Economic and Technological Cooperation is signed. | | |
| Apr. 1959 | Overseas Technological Training Center begins activities (prototype of project-type technical cooperation). | | |
| May 1959 | Japan-South vietnam Agreement on Reparations is signed. | | |
| Mar. 1960 | Japan joins the DAG. | Dec. 1959 | Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is founded. |
| | | Jan. 1960 | Oliver Franks points out the importance of North-South issue (in the Saturday Review). |
| | | Jan. 1960 | Development Assistance Group (DAG) is founded. |
| | | Sep. 1960 | Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is founded. |
| Dec. 1960 | Japan joins the IDA. | Sep. 1960 | International Development Association (IDA, "Second World Bank") is founded. |

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation | Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| Mar. 1961 | Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) is founded. | | |
| Jun. 1961 | Council of Foreign Economic Cooperation is established. | Sep. 1961 | Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is founded. |
| | | Oct. 1961 | Development Assistance Committee (DAC, formerly DAG) is established. Japan is a founding member country. |
| | | Nov. 1961 | United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is established. |
| | | Dec. 1961 | UN Decade of Development is adopted at the 16th UN General Assembly. |
| Jan. 1962 | US-Japan agreement on the repayment of GARIOA and EROA debts is signed. | Jan. 1962 | DAC Chairman's Report is published for the first time. |
| Jan. 1962 | Agreement between Japan and Thailand concerning the Settlement of "Special Yen Problems" is signed. | | |
| Jun. 1962 | DAC conducts the first annual review of assistance to Japan. | | |
| Jun. 1962 | Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency (OTCA) is founded. | | |
| Mar. 1963 | Japan-Burma Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation is signed. | Oct. 1962 | Cuban Missile Crisis. |
| | | May. 1963 | Organization of African Unity (OAU) Charter is signed. |
| | | Feb. 1964 | Prebisch Report entitled "Towards a New Trade Policy for Development" is published. |
| Apr. 1964 | Japan joins the OECD. | Mar. 1964 | First United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is held. |
| Apr. 1964 | Provision program of equipment and materials begins. | | |
| | | Nov. 1964 | African Development Bank (AfDB) is founded. |
| Apr. 1965 | Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) program is inaugurated. DAC adopts new recommendations on Financial Terms and Conditions, which suggest measures related to aid tying. | Feb. 1965 | US begins bombing North Vietnam. |
| | | | |
| Jul. 1966 | Two Step loans start. | Jan. 1966 | United Nations Development Program (UNDP) is founded. |
| | | | |
| Nov. 1966 | Japan-Burma Peace Treaty and Agreement on Reparations and Economic Cooperation is signed. | Aug. 1966 | Asian Development Bank (ADB) is founded; Japan becomes a founding member. |
| | | | |
| | | Jan. 1967 | United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is founded. |
| | | Jul. 1967 | Treaty on European Community (EC) enters into force. |
| | | Aug. 1967 | Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is founded by the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore. |
| | | Feb. 1968 | UNCTAD Second Session declares an ODA target of 1% of GDP. |
| Jul. 1968 | Commodity loans start. | | |
| Jul. 1968 | Food Aid starts. | | |
| Jul. 1968 | Acceptance of trainees reaches 10,000. | | |
| 1969 | General Grant Aid starts. | | |
| Apr. 1969 | Japan announces a two-fold increase in aid to Asia within a period of five years at the second ADB Annual Meeting. | Oct. 1969 | Pearson Report entitled "Partners on Development" is announced. |
| | | Oct. 1970 | UN adopts the Tinbergen Report and a resolution on the Second UN Development Decade. |
| Apr. 1971 | MOFA launches subsidy program for local governments and communities. | Aug. 1971 | US announces a new economic policy ("Nixon Shock"). |

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation | Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|--|------------|---|
| Apr. 1972 | Japan declares an ODA target of 0.7% of GDP at UNCTAD. | Dec. 1971 | Meeting of finance ministers from 10 countries agrees to multilateral currency alignment, establishing the Smithsonian System. |
| May, 1972 | Introduction of untied loans is approved by the cabinet. | Jun. 1972 | UN Conference on Human Environment is held in Stockholm. |
| Oct. 1972 | Japan Foundation is founded. | Jun. 1972 | Diplomatic relations are normalized between Japan and the People's Republic of China. |
| 1973 | Grant Aid for Fisheries starts. | Oct. 1972 | DAC adopts new Recommendation on Terms and Conditions of Aid (Definition of ODA). |
| Aug. 1974 | Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is founded. | Oct. 1973 | Ministerial meeting of OPEC decides to raise posted price of crude oil, triggering the first oil crisis. |
| Mar. 1975 | Third Country Training Program starts. | May. 1974 | UN General Assembly Special Session on Raw Materials and Development adopts a declaration to establish a New International Economic Order (NIEO) and a special project to support Most Seriously Affected Countries (MSAC) by the oil crisis. |
| Mar. 1975 | Japan-Saudi Arabia Agreement on Economic and Technological Cooperation is signed. | Feb. 1975 | Lome Convention is signed. |
| Apr. 1975 | Cultural Grant Aid starts. | Aug. 1975 | UN World Population Conference is held in Bucharest. |
| Jul. 1975 | Ministerial Council for External Economic Cooperation is established. | Sep. 1975 | UN General Assembly Special Session on Development and International Economic Cooperation is held. |
| Jul. 1975 | Yen loan activities are transferred to the OECF. | Nov. 1975 | First Summit Meeting is held (Rambouillet Summit). |
| Jul. 1976 | Japan joins the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). | Feb. 1976 | First ASEAN Summit is held in Bali. |
| Jul. 1976 | Japan completes reparations to the Philippines. | Nov. 1977 | International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is founded. |
| Apr. 1977 | Grant Aid for Increase of Food Production starts. | Aug. 1978 | World Bank publishes the first "World Development Report." |
| Aug. 1977 | Fukuda Doctrine is announced. | Aug. 1978 | Japan-China Treaty of Peace and Friendship is signed. |
| Feb. 1978 | DAC further strengthens recommendations on Terms and Conditions, increasing the grand element target. | May. 1979 | Brandt Commission's report entitled "North-South: A Program for Survival" is published. |
| Apr. 1978 | Grant Aid for Debt Relief starts. | Mar. 1980 | World Bank approves the first structural adjustment loan to Turkey. |
| Jul. 1978 | First Medium-Term target of ODA (a plan to double ODA in three years) is announced at the G7 Summit in Bonn. | Dec. 1980 | UN General Assembly adopts the International Development Strategy for the Third UN Development Decade. |
| Dec. 1979 | Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira visits China and announces the first round of Yen loans to China. | Oct. 1981 | North-South Summit, the International Meeting on Cooperation and Development, is held in Cancun. |
| Jan. 1981 | Second Medium Term Target of ODA (a plan to double ODA in five years) is announced. | Aug. 1982 | Mexico declares a moratorium on debt repayments, beginning of debt crisis. |
| Jan. 1981 | Economic Cooperation Evaluation Committee is established. | | |

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation | Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|--|------------|--|
| Sep. 1982 | Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues the first version of the "Annual Evaluation Report on Japan's Economic Cooperation." | | |
| Feb. 1983 | Japan joins the AfDB. | | |
| Mar. 1984 | Ministry of Foreign Affairs announces the first edition of "Japan's Official Development Assistance." | | |
| | | Jun. 1984 | First meeting of Latin American debtor countries is held in Cartagena. |
| | | Aug. 1984 | United Nations International Conference on Population adopts the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development. |
| Sep. 1985 | Third Medium-Term Target of ODA is announced. | Sep. 1985 | Finance ministers and central bank governors of the Group of Five countries agree on the Plaza Accord. |
| Jul. 1986 | Structural Adjustment Loans (SAL) with the World Bank starts. | | |
| | | Apr. 1987 | Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, "Our Common Future," by Gro Harlem Brundtland is announced. |
| May. 1987 | Japan announces the "Financial Recycling Scheme," which increases ODA to compensate for its growing trade surplus. | | |
| Jul. 1987 | Non-project grant aid for structural adjustment support starts. | | |
| Sep. 1987 | Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Team is founded. | | |
| Oct. 1987 | International Cooperation Day is established. | | |
| May. 1988 | Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita announces an initiative for the international cooperation in London. | | |
| Jun. 1988 | Fourth Medium-Term Target of ODA is announced. | | |
| Jul. 1988 | Management and Coordination Agency issues a report for the Administrative Inspection Concerning ODA. | | |
| Apr. 1989 | Grant Aid for Grassroots Projects and NGO Project Subsidies start. | | |
| Jul. 1989 | Government announces its intention to strengthen environmental cooperation to developing countries at the G7 Summit in Arche. | Jun. 1989 | Tiananmen Square incident occurs in Beijing. |
| Sep. 1989 | Management and Coordination Agency issues a report on the Second Administrative Inspection Concerning ODA. | | |
| Dec. 1989 | Japan becomes the top ODA donor among DAC countries for the first time. | Nov. 1989 | Collapse of the Berlin Wall. |
| Apr. 1990 | Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development (FASID) is founded. | | |
| | | May. 1990 | "UNDP Human Development Report" is published for the first time. |
| Jul. 1990 | Japan completes repayment of World Bank loans. | Aug. 1990 | Iraq invades Kuwait. |
| | | Oct. 1990 | Unification of Germany. |
| | | Oct. 1990 | Final meeting of the South Commission adopts its report, "The Challenge to the South." |
| | | Oct. 1990 | International Development Strategy in Fourth 10 Year of UN Development is adopted. |
| Jan. 1991 | Postal Savings for International Voluntary Aid Program starts. | | |
| Apr. 1991 | Four key principles for implementing ODA are formulated. | Feb. 1991 | Gulf crisis ends. |
| | | Apr. 1991 | European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is founded; Japan is one of the founding members. |
| | | Jul. 1991 | Leaders at the London Summit decide on emergency support measures for the Soviet Union. |
| | | Dec. 1991 | Soviet Union collapses; Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) is established. |
| Jun. 1992 | Japan participates in the Earth Summit (UNCED) and announces that Japan's environmental ODA will increase to between ¥900 billion and ¥1 trillion in the five years from fiscal year 1992. | Jun. 1992 | United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED, "Earth Summit") is held in Rio de Janeiro. |
| Jun. 1992 | Japan's Official Development Assistance Charter is approved by the cabinet. | | |
| Mar. 1993 | Partnership for Democracy and Development in Central America is held in Tokyo. | | |

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation | Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| Jun. 1993 | Fifth Medium-Term Target of ODA and the funds for Development Initiative are announced. | | |
| Jul. 1993 | Common Agenda for Cooperation in Global Perspective is announced as a result of Japan- US Framework Talks. | | |
| Oct. 1993 | Japan co-hosts the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD I). Tokyo Declaration on African Development is adopted. | | |
| Oct. 1993 | Plaza for International Cooperation is established. | | |
| | | Sep. 1993 | Japan co-sponsors the first meeting of International Committee on Reconstruction of Cambodia (ICORC) in Paris. |
| | | Nov. 1993 | Treaty on European Union (EU) enters into force. |
| Feb. 1994 | Japan announces the Global Issues Initiative (GII) on Population and AIDS. | Jan. 1994 | World Trade Organization (WTO) is founded. |
| | | Aug. 1994 | Tenth International Conference on AIDS is held in Yokohama. |
| | | Sep. 1994 | International Conference on Population and Development is held in Cairo. |
| | | Dec. 1994 | Paris Club agrees on the Naples Terms. |
| Feb. 1995 | Ministerial Meeting of the Forum for Comprehensive Development of Indochina is hosted by Japan in Tokyo. | | |
| | | Mar. 1995 | World Summit for Social Development is held in Copenhagen. |
| May. 1995 | Emergency Grant Aid for Democratization is commenced. | | |
| Aug. 1995 | Grant Aid to China is suspended because of its nuclear tests. | | |
| Sep. 1995 | WID (Women in Development) Initiative is announced. | Sep. 1995 | Fourth World Conference on Women is held in Beijing. |
| Sep. 1995 | Official Japanese ODA logo is decided. | | |
| | | Nov. 1995 | Osaka meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) agrees on the Partnership for Progress (PPF) mechanism to promote economic and technical cooperation within APEC. |
| | | Dec. 1995 | Bosnia Peace Agreement is signed in Paris. |
| Apr. 1996 | MOFA-NGO Regular Meetings start. | Mar. 1996 | Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is held in Bangkok. |
| May. 1996 | Japan-China Comprehensive Forum on Environmental Cooperation is inaugurated. | | |
| | | May. 1996 | DAC Development Partnership Strategy is adopted at the DAC High-Level Meeting. |
| Aug. 1996 | "Report on the Strategies for Development of Greater Mekong Area" is released. | Jun. 1996 | 22nd Summit Meeting (Lyon Summit) is held. HIPC Initiative is agreed. |
| | | | |
| Mar. 1997 | Grant Aid to China is recommenced. | Nov. 1996 | World Food Summit is held in Rome. |
| Apr. 1997 | Council on ODA Reforms for the 21st Century is launched. | | |
| Jun. 1997 | Cabinet decides a policy on the promotion of fiscal structural reform. | Jun. 1997 | Special Session of the UN General Assembly to Review and Appraise the Implementation of Agenda 21 (Earth Summit + 5) is held. |
| Jun. 1997 | Japan announces the initiatives for Sustainable Development Toward the 21st Century (ISD) at the Earth Summit + 5. | | |
| | | Jul. 1997 | Thai Baht plunges in value, triggering the Asian currency and financial crisis. |
| Sep. 1997 | Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto visits China, where he proposes a bilateral agreement on environmental cooperation. | | |
| Oct. 1997 | First Japan-SPF Summit Meeting (Pacific Islands Forum) is held in Tokyo. | | |
| Dec. 1997 | At the Signing Conference of the Mine Ban Convention in Ottawa, Foreign Minister Keizo Obuchi announces Japan's pledge to provide approximately ¥10 billion over five years for mine clearance and victim assistance. | Dec. 1997 | Signing Conference of Mine Ban Convention. |
| Dec. 1997 | Japan announces the Kyoto Initiative (Assistance to Developing Countries for Combating Global Warming). | Dec. 1997 | Third Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is held in Kyoto. |
| Dec. 1997 | Prime Minister Hashimoto proposes the Japan-ASEAN Program for Comprehensive Human Resources Development on his visit to ASEAN countries. | | |

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation | Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|---|------------|--|
| Dec. 1997 | Fiscal Structural Reform Act is enacted, which provides that the ODA budget will be reduced over the next three years. | | |
| Jan. 1998 | Council on ODA Reforms presents its final report. | | |
| Feb. 1998 | Emergency economic stabilization measures for Southeast Asia are announced. | | |
| May. 1998 | Suspension, in principle, of new grant aid and Yen loans to India and Pakistan. | | |
| May. 1998 | International Parasite Control (Hashimoto Initiative) is presented. | | |
| Jun. 1998 | Enactment of the Basic Law on the Administrative Reform of the Central Government. | Jun. 1998 | UN General Assembly holds the Special Session on the World Drug Problem. |
| Oct. 1998 | Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD II) is held. | | |
| Oct. 1998 | New Miyazawa Initiative is announced. | | |
| Nov. 1998 | Japan dispatches an SDF unit to hurricane-devastated Honduras in its first overseas deployment as a Japan Disaster Relief Team. | | |
| Nov. 1998 | Overseas Economic Cooperation-related ministries and agencies agree on the promotion of transparency and efficiency of ODA. | | |
| Nov. 1998 | Japan-China summit meeting is held. A joint announcement is issued on Japan-China Environmental Cooperation Toward the 21st Century, and agreement is reached on the "latter two-year" portion of the fourth round of Yen loans to China. | | |
| Dec. 1998 | Special Yen loan facility to assist economic structural reform is announced. | | |
| Mar. 1999 | Trust Fund for Human Security is established in the United Nations. | | |
| Apr. 1999 | Chief Cabinet Secretary announces Japan's proposal for debt-relief measures targeted at Heavily Indebted Poor Countries. | | |
| Apr. 1999 | Announcement is made of Japan's contribution to Kosovo totaling approximately \$200 million. | | |
| | | Jun. 1999 | Cologne Debt Initiative is announced at the Cologne Summit. |
| | | Jun. 1999 | UN General Assembly Special Session on the International Conference on Population and Development is held in New York. |
| Jul. 1999 | LDP Special Committee on External Economic Cooperation announces its proposal for strategic implementation of economic cooperation toward the 21st century. | | |
| Aug. 1999 | Medium-Term Policy on Official Development Assistance is announced. | | |
| Aug. 1999 | House of Councillors Committee on Oversight of Administration adopts a resolution on ODA. | | |
| Sep. 1999 | First group of ODA Citizen-Monitors is dispatched. | Sep. 1999 | World Bank/IMF Joint Development Committee decides a concrete plan of action under the enhanced HIPC Initiative. |
| Oct. 1999 | Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) is established. | | |
| Nov. 1999 | "Obuchi Plan" for enhancing human resources development and exchange in East Asia is announced at the ASEAN + 3 (Japan, Korea, China) summit meeting in Manila. | | |
| Mar. 2000 | Inter-Ministerial Meeting on Official Development Assistance is held for the first time. | | |
| Mar. 2000 | Country Assistance Plans are formulated for Thailand and Bangladesh. | | |
| Apr. 2000 | Japan announces additional debt-relief measures for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries. | Apr. 2000 | World Education Forum is held in Dakar. |
| Apr. 2000 | Cultural Aid for Cultural Heritage and Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects start. | | |
| Apr. 2000 | 2nd Japan-South Pacific Forum Summit Meeting (Japan-Pacific Islands Forum Summit Meeting) is held in Miyazaki. | | |
| Apr. 2000 | Start of Grant Assistance for NGOs' Emergency Relief Projects in fiscal year 2000. | | |

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation | Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| Apr. 2000 | Measures to prevent improper and inappropriate activities that pertain to ODA projects are introduced. | | |
| Jun. 2000 | Country Assistance Plans are formulated for Vietnam, Egypt, Tanzania, and Ghana. | Jun. 2000 | UN General Assembly Special Session: Women 2000 is held in New York. |
| | | Jun. 2000 | UN General Assembly Special Session: Social Summit + 5 is held. |
| Jul. 2000 | "Action from Japan on 'Conflict and Development,'" "Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society," "Japan's Comprehensive Cooperation Package to Address the International Digital Divide," and "Okinawa Infectious Diseases Initiative" are announced at the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit. | Jun. 2000 | Signing of the Cotonou Agreement. |
| | | Jul. 2000 | 26th Summit Meeting (Kyushu-Okinawa Summit) is held. Leaders of Developing Countries are invited to meet with G8 leaders. |
| Aug. 2000 | Country Assistance Plans are formulated for Kenya, the Philippines, and Peru. | Aug. 2000 | UN Millennium Summit is held. |
| Aug. 2000 | Japan Platform is established. | Aug. 2000 | UN Millennium Assembly is held. |
| Oct. 2000 | Ceremony to commemorate 20 years of Japan-China economic cooperation is held in Beijing. | | |
| Oct. 2000 | Kyoto Meeting on Polio Eradication in the Western Pacific Region is held. | | |
| Oct. 2000 | First Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Mission is dispatched to the Philippines, Thailand, and Cambodia. | | |
| Nov. 2000 | "A New Framework for Japan-CARICOM Cooperation for the 21st Century," announced at the First Japan-CARICOM Ministerial-Level Conference in Tokyo. | | |
| Dec. 2000 | Okinawa International Conference on Infectious Diseases is held. | | |
| Jan. 2001 | Amendments to the MOFA Establishment Law take effect following the enactment of the Basic Law for Central Government Reform. | | |
| Jan. 2001 | Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori visits Africa. (South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria) | | |
| | | Apr. 2001 | African Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Other Related Infectious Diseases is held in Abuja, Nigeria. |
| | | Apr. 2001 | Commission on Human Security is established. |
| | | Apr. 2001 | OECD-DAC agrees on the recommendation on untying ODA to the Least Developed Countries. |
| May. 2001 | First Meeting of the Second Consultative Committee on ODA Reform is held. | May. 2001 | Third UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries is held. |
| | | Jun. 2001 | UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS is held. |
| | | Jul. 2001 | Genoa G8 Summit is held. Foundation of Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria is agreed. |
| Aug. 2001 | Second Consultative Committee on ODA Reform issues its interim report. | | |
| Aug. 2001 | ODA Town Meeting is commenced. | | |
| Oct. 2001 | Economic Cooperation Program for China is formulated and announced. | Sep. 2001 | Terrorist attacks in the United States. |
| Oct. 2001 | Japan decides to lift an economic sanction imposed in response to the nuclear tests conducted by India and Pakistan. | Oct. 2001 | Ceremonies are held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Colombo Plan. |
| | | Oct. 2001 | Asia Pacific Ministerial meeting on HIV/AIDS and Development is held in Melbourne. |
| | | Oct. 2001 | New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is established. |
| Nov. 2001 | First Tokyo Workshop on ODA Evaluation is held. | Nov. 2001 | Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference held in Doha. (Doha Development Agenda is adopted) |
| | | Nov. 2001 | Representatives of groups in Afghanistan hold a conference in Bonn and reach an agreement on the establishment of an Interim Authority. |
| Dec. 2001 | TICAD ministerial-level meeting is held in Tokyo. | | |
| Dec. 2001 | International Conference on the Reconstruction of Afghanistan is held in Tokyo. | | |
| Jan. 2002 | Prime Minister Koizumi visits ASEAN countries. | Jan. 2002 | Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria is founded. |
| Jan. 2002 | International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan is held in Tokyo. Assistance of up to 500 million dollars over the next two and a half years is announced. | | |
| Feb. 2002 | Country Assistance Programs are formulated for Cambodia and Malaysia. | | |

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation | Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| Mar. 2002 | Second Consultative Committee on ODA Reform issues its final report. | Mar. 2002 | International Conference on the Financing for Development is held in Monterrey. |
| Apr. 2002 | JBIC announces its Guidelines for Confirmation of Environmental and Social Considerations. | | |
| Apr. 2002 | Prime Minister Koizumi visits Asia Pacific Countries. | | |
| May. 2002 | "Consolidation of Peace" is advocated. | May. 2002 | UN General Assembly Special Session on Children is held in New York. |
| Jun. 2002 | Board on Comprehensive ODA Strategy holds its first meeting. | Jun. 2002 | World Food Summit: Five Years Later is held in Rome. |
| Jun. 2002 | Basic Education for Growth Initiative (BEGIN) is announced. | Jun. 2002 | G8 Kananaskis Summit is held. (G8 Africa Action Plan is announced.) |
| Jun. 2002 | Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects is launched. | | |
| Jun. 2002 | Terms and Conditions on Yen loans are improved (including the introduction of the Special Terms for Economic Partnership). | | |
| Jun. 2002 | USAID-Japan Partnership for Global Health is issued. | | |
| Jul. 2002 | Fifteen Specific Measures for ODA Reform are announced. | Jul. 2002 | African Union (AU) is formed. (Reorganization from OAU) |
| Jul. 2002 | Final Report of the Advisory Board for the reform of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is announced. | | |
| Jul. 2002 | Task Force on Foreign Relations for the Prime Minister (chaired by Special Advisor to the Cabinet Yukio Okamoto) issues "Japan's ODA Strategy". | | |
| Aug. 2002 | Initiative for Development in East Asia (IDEA) Ministerial Meeting is held in Tokyo. | Aug. 2002 | World Summit on Sustainable Development is held in Johannesburg. |
| Aug. 2002 | Japan decides to provide Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects for the procurement of anti-personnel landmine removers and detectors. | | |
| Aug. 2002 | Koizumi Initiative (the concrete action for the "Sustainable Development" by the Government of Japan) is announced. | | |
| Aug. 2002 | Environmental Conservation Initiative for Sustainable Development (EcolSD) is announced. | | |
| Aug. 2002 | Action program is announced based on the final report of the Advisory Board for the reform of MOFA. | | |
| Sep. 2002 | JICA Partnership Program starts. | | |
| Oct. 2002 | Country Assistance Plans are formulated for Tunisia, Zambia, and Nicaragua. | | |
| Nov. 2002 | NGO-MOFA Regular Meeting, "Partnership Promotion Committee" is commenced. | | |
| Dec. 2002 | "ODA Reform: Implementation of Three Measures" is announced. | | |
| Dec. 2002 | Report is issued by the Advisory Group on International Cooperation for Peace. | | |
| Dec. 2002 | NGO-MOFA Regular Meeting "ODA Policy Council" is commenced. | | |
| Jan. 2003 | Asia-Pacific Regional Conference for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) held in Tokyo. | | |
| Feb. 2003 | Fifth Meeting of the Commission on the Human Security held in Tokyo. | Feb. 2003 | Tokyo International Conference on Investment to Africa. |
| Feb. 2003 | Tokyo Conference on 'Consolidation of Peace' in Afghanistan (DDR Conference) is held. | Feb. 2003 | High Level Forum on Harmonization is held in Rome. |
| Feb. 2003 | International Symposium on Human Security is held in Tokyo. | | |
| Apr. 2003 | "Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Projects " is renamed "Grassroots Human Security Grant Aid." | Mar. 2003 | 3rd World Water Forum and the Ministerial Conference is held in Kyoto, Shiga and Osaka. |
| May. 2003 | Japan's Initiative for Cooperation for Africa is announced. | | |
| May. 2003 | Third Japan-Pacific Islands Forum Summit Meeting (PALM 2003) is held in Okinawa. | May. 2003 | Final Report of the Commission on Human Security is announced. |
| Jun. 2003 | International Symposium on Refugees in Africa: "Renewed Partnership between Japan and UNHCR" is held in Tokyo. | Jun. 2003 | 29th Summit Meeting (Evian Summit) is held. |
| Jun. 2003 | Tokyo Conference on Reconstruction and Development of Sri Lanka is held. | | |

| Month/Year | Developments in Japanese Economic Cooperation |
|------------------------|---|
| Aug. 2003 Aug. 2003 | Cabinet adopts Revised ODA Charter. Initiative for Development in East Asia Fukuoka Symposium. |
| Sep. 2003 | Third Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD III) is held in Tokyo. TICAD 10th Anniversary Declaration is adopted. |
| Oct. 2003 | Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Japan Foundation turn into an "Independent Administrative Institution." |
| Oct. 2003 | Government of Japan announces its assistance package to Iraq; US\$1.5 billion of grant aid for the immediate support, and up to \$3.5 billion mainly in the form of Yen loans |
| Dec. 2003 | ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit Meeting is held in Tokyo ("Tokyo Declaration," and "The Japan-ASEAN Plan of Action," are announced). |
| Dec. 2003 | International Symposium on "Human Security Now" is held in Tokyo. |
| Feb. 2004 | Government of Japan announces to contribute \$490 million to the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq. |
| Feb. 2004 | International Symposium on Capacity Development-exploring productive partnerships in Tokyo is co-hosted by JICA, UNDP, WBI and CIDA in Tokyo. |
| Apr. 2004 | Country assistance programs are formulated for Vietnam and Sri Lanka. |
| Apr. 2004 | Ministerial Conference on Peace Consolidation and Economic Development of the Western Balkans is held in Tokyo. |
| Apr. 2004 | JICA's "Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations," are put into effect. |
| May. 2004 | NGO-MOFA Regular Meeting "General Meeting" starts. |
| Jun. 2004 | LENPA (Learning Network on Program-Based Approaches) Forum on PBA in Asia is held in Tokyo. |
| Jul. 2004 | Japan Forum on International Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development is founded. |
| Jul. 2004 | International Symposium on Human Security is held in Tokyo. |
| Aug. 2004 | Institutional reform of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (strengthening of country-specific approach) is conducted. |

| Month/Year | Developments in International Economic Cooperation and Major World Events |
|------------|--|
| Jul. 2003 | Consultative Group Meeting of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is held in Paris. |
| Aug. 2003 | International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation is held in Almaty. |
| Aug. 2003 | Dushanbe Fresh Water Forum is held in Tajikistan. |
| Sep. 2003 | 5th WTO Ministerial Conference is held in Cancun. |
| Oct. 2003 | 7th ASEAN + 3 Summit is held in Bali. |
| Oct. 2003 | APEC joint Ministerial/Informal Leaders Meeting is held in Bangkok, Thailand. |
| Oct. 2003 | International Donors' Conference for the Reconstruction of Iraq is held in Madrid. |
| Dec. 2003 | World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) is held in Geneva. |
| Jan. 2004 | High-Level Forum on the Health MDGs is held. |
| Feb. 2004 | First Donor Committee Meeting of the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq is held in Abu Dhabi. |
| Mar. 2004 | International Conference on Afghanistan is held in Berlin. |
| Apr. 2004 | INSARAG Lessons Learned Meeting following the earthquakes of Iran/Bam and Morocco is held in Tunisia. |
| Apr. 2004 | Africa-Asia Business Forum III is held in Senegal. |
| Apr. 2004 | Second Meeting of the Africa Partnership Forum is held in Mozambique. |
| May. 2004 | Asia-Africa Public Private Joint Forum is held in Malaysia. |
| May. 2004 | G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting is held in Washington. |
| May. 2004 | Second Donor Committee Meeting of the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq is held in Doha. |
| May. 2004 | Shanghai Conference on Scaling Up Poverty Reduction is held. |
| Jun. 2004 | 30th G8 Summit (Sea Island Summit) is held. |
| Jun. 2004 | 11th U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is held in Sao Paolo. |
| Jul. 2004 | ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers' Meeting is held in Jakarta. |
| Jul. 2004 | DAC High Level Meeting (on MDGs) is held in Paris. |
| Jul. 2004 | XV International AIDS Conference is held in Bangkok. |
| Jul. 2004 | Second Asia-Pacific Ministerial Meeting on HIV/AIDS is held in Bangkok. |
| Jul. 2004 | U.N. Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation is held in New York. |
| Jul. 2004 | WTO General Council adopts a framework agreement in Geneva. |
| Aug. 2004 | Asian-African Sub-Regional Organizations Conference (AASROC) is held in Durban. |
| Aug. 2004 | WTO General Council adopts a decision (an interim agreement in negotiations). |