



## Chapter 2

# Concrete Steps for Achievement of MDGs

**Five years from the MDGs deadline, Japan is taking concrete steps for the achievement of the MDGs.**

2010 was a milestone year with five years remaining until the 2015 deadline for achieving the MDGs. On various occasions, beginning with the UN Summit on the MDGs held in New York from September 20–22 and the preceding G8 Muskoka Summit as well as the Special Ministerial Meeting for MDGs Review in Asia and the Pacific, the international community confirmed the importance of making enhanced efforts to meet the MDGs.

Japan's assistance for the achievement of the MDGs by 2015 rests on the concept of “human security”. It focuses on each and every person and aims to realize the rich potential he or she possesses. It attaches importance to protecting people and communities from complexly intertwined threats and building capacity so that each individual can take the course of action he or she chooses.

At the UN Summit in September 2010, Japan announced new assistance policies in the areas of health and education — fields Japan attaches particular importance to. The new Global Health Policy 2011–2015 is a comprehensive set of policies regarding assistance for health. In the area of maternal and child health, Japan, in collaboration with international organizations and other development partners, will provide assistance that offers seamless care from prenatal to postnatal care and will save the lives of pregnant women and newborns. Also, in regards to assistance for the three major infectious diseases, Japan will strive to significantly reduce the number of deaths through a combination of both contributions to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and bilateral assistance. Under Japan's Education Cooperation Policy 2011–2015 in the area of education, Japan, through contributions to international organizations and other means, will provide assistance for the development of basic education, based on the “School for All” assistance model aimed at providing education opportunities to all children.

## Section 1

# International Community's Actions and Japan's Efforts

With a view to achieving the MDGs, world leaders gathered for many meetings in 2010 to discuss development assistance, including the G8 Muskoka Summit (June) and the UN Summit on the MDGs (September).

## 1. G8 Muskoka Summit

The G8 Muskoka Summit was held in Muskoka, Canada from June 25 to 26, 2010, and Prime Minister Naoto Kan attended from Japan. Development has been one of the key G8 agenda items in recent years. At the Muskoka Summit, too, development was discussed at the meeting with the African Outreach leaders (Note 2), where all leaders shared the view that efforts must be strengthened to meet the MDGs.

The focus of the Summit was on “maternal and child health” — areas in which progress has been particularly slow. The G8 leaders launched the Muskoka Initiative for enhancing assistance for maternal and child health, and pledged to contribute an additional US\$5 billion over the next five years under the Initiative. The leaders also called for the cooperation of other governments, international organizations, and developing countries themselves in order to build on the momentum of the G8's assistance and translate it into larger global initiatives.

In light of the importance of improving maternal



Group photo at the G8 Summit outreach meeting; Prime Minister Naoto Kan, back row, second from right (Muskoka, Canada) (Photo: AFP=Jiji)

and child health also from the standpoint of “human security” on which Japan puts emphasis, Prime Minister Kan announced that Japan will provide additional assistance of up to ¥50 billion or approximately US\$500 million over five years beginning in 2011 for maternal and child health under the Muskoka Initiative.

## 2. Special Ministerial Meeting for MDGs Review in Asia and the Pacific

In the lead-up to the UN Summit on the MDGs, a variety of preparatory meetings were held and Japan actively participated in the meetings. The Special Ministerial Meeting for MDGs Review in Asia and the Pacific was held in Jakarta, Indonesia from August 3 to 4, 2010, and State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Osamu Fujimura attended from Japan. The meeting was attended by ministers from many countries, and a declaration was adopted concerning the achievement of the MDGs in Asia and the Pacific region.

In his speech at the meeting, State Secretary Fujimura praised the relatively steady progress towards the achievement of the MDGs in the region, supported by its strong economic growth. At the same time, he pointed out that there are profound disparities in progress depending on the region, country, or group, and announced that Japan will continue to provide assistance towards the achievement of the MDGs in the Asia-Pacific region.

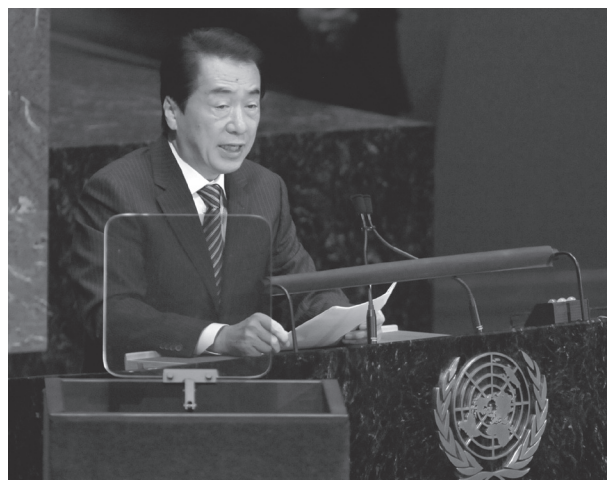
**Note 2** Members: G8 (Japan, U.S., UK, Germany, France, Italy, Canada, Russia, EU), Algeria, Egypt (absent), Nigeria, Senegal, the Republic of South Africa, Ethiopia (Chair of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee), Malawi (Chair of the African Union [AU]).

### 3. UN Summit on the MDGs

The UN Summit on the MDGs was held over three days from September 20 to 22, 2010, just before the general debate started at the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly. The Summit was attended by approximately 140 heads of state and government. Unlike the UN summit of a similar style held in 2005, where discussion took place on wide-ranging topics related to the UN Millennium Declaration as a whole, the focus was narrowed to the MDGs for the 2010 summit.

From Japan, Prime Minister Naoto Kan and Minister for Foreign Affairs Seiji Maehara attended. Prime Minister Kan delivered an address at the High-level Plenary Meeting and announced the “Kan Commitment”, which sets out Japan’s specific contributions towards the achievement of the MDGs. Japan pledged to provide a total of US\$8.5 billion of assistance over five years beginning in 2011 for the areas of health and education where progress is particularly slow. In addition, Minister for Foreign Affairs Maehara attended a roundtable on the theme of “addressing the special needs of the most vulnerable”. He demonstrated that the notion of human security is vital for responding to the diverse needs of the most vulnerable, including those living in slums and remote villages, minorities, and persons with disabilities, and introduced Japan’s “School for All” education assistance model.

At the UN Summit on the MDGs, various events were held in parallel with the Summit comprised of the High-level Plenary Meeting and roundtable sessions, in which Japan actively participated. Minister for Foreign Affairs Maehara attended the Focus Group on MDGs in Asia spearheaded by Japan, and highlighted the importance of sharing Asia’s experience of economic



Prime Minister Naoto Kan delivering an address at the UN Summit on the MDGs  
(Photo: AFP=Jiji)

growth and giving attention to the disparities originating from the growth. In addition, he attended the High-level Side Event on Innovative Financing hosted by the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development, and expressed Japan’s wish to expand international discussions on innovative financing.

The UN Summit on the MDGs was attended not only by government delegations but also by representatives from the civil society, NGOs, and the private sector. From Japan’s private sector, Mr. Hiromasa Yonekura, Chairman of Nippon Keidanren (Japan Business Federation) and member of the UN’s MDG Advocacy Group (Note 3), participated in (the Summit and attended) the roundtable attended by Minister for Foreign Affairs Maehara and other events. From civil society and NGOs, two representatives participated as members of the government delegation.

**Note 3** The MDG Advocacy Group is co-chaired by President Paul Kagame of Rwanda and President José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero of the Government of Spain and consists of 21 eminent personalities. Members include Nobel Peace Prize laureates Muhammad Yunus (Bangladesh) and Wangari Maathai (Kenya), former Chilean President Michelle Bachelet Jeria, former First Lady of the Republic of South Africa Graca Machel, and U.S. entrepreneurs Bill Gates and Ted Turner. From Japan, Chairman of Nippon Keidanren Hiromasa Yonekura was inducted. Members display global leadership in promoting the implementation of the MDGs through the eradication of poverty and hunger and advancing education, health, gender equality, and environmental sustainability.

## Section 2

## Japan's Contribution Towards Achievement of MDGs

With a view to achieving the MDGs, Japan will make contributions to international organizations and provide direct assistance to countries in areas such as health and education, so that challenged countries can be self-reliant.

## 1. New Global Health Policy

Japan has put emphasis on health as a global issue directly linked to human security, and has led discussions of the international community on topics such as strengthening the health system. Japan achieved the goal of the Health and Development Initiative (HDI) it announced in 2005, which was to provide comprehensive assistance amounting to US\$5 billion over five years, and was completed at the end of FY2009. On this milestone year with five years left until the deadline for achieving the MDGs, Japan established the “Global Health Policy 2011–2015” and unveiled it on the occasion of the UN Summit on the MDGs. To contribute to the achievement of health-related MDGs based on this policy, Prime Minister Kan announced that Japan will provide assistance in this area amounting to US\$5 billion over five years beginning in 2011.

The new policy is a comprehensive policy on Japan's assistance in the health sector and is comprised of three pillars: (1) Maternal and child health; (2) Combating three major infectious diseases (HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria); and (3) Responding to global public health emergencies. Under this new policy, Japan will focus efforts to resolve the challenges (bottlenecks) in achieving the health-related MDGs and carry out effective and efficient assistance.

With regards to maternal and child health — the areas in which progress has been particularly slow, Japan will enhance assistance for ensuring seamless care from prenatal to postnatal care based on the “EMBRACE”<sup>(Note 4)</sup> assistance model which Japan proposed to the international community. Specifically,

Japan will extend assistance in cooperation with the international community, so that aid recipient countries can provide medical care as a package, including regular checkups for pregnant women, newborn care at hospitals with equipment and human resources, improved access to hospitals, and vaccinations. Based on this policy, Japan, in collaboration with other development partners including international organizations, aims to save the lives of 680,000 pregnant women and 11.3 million infants including 2.96 million newborns in aid recipient countries. For combating the three major infectious diseases, Japan will strengthen support particularly for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). At the UN Summit on the MDGs in September 2010 and the Global Fund's Third Voluntary Replenishment Conference in October, Japan announced that it will contribute up to US\$800 million for the coming years to the Global Fund. In addition to making further financial contributions, Japan will step up complementarity between the Global Fund's activities and Japan's bilateral assistance. Based on this policy, Japan aims to avert 470,000 deaths from AIDS, 990,000 deaths from tuberculosis, and 3.3 million deaths from malaria across aid recipient countries, in cooperation with other development partners.

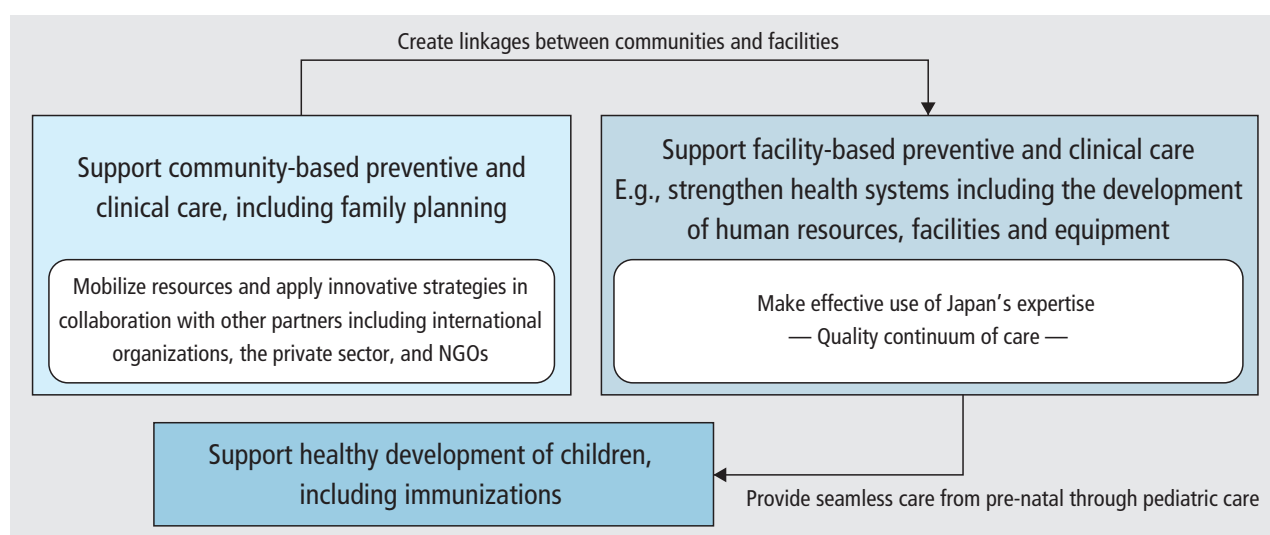
Furthermore, Japan will provide active support in response to global public health emergencies such as pandemic influenza and polio, and various health crises due to natural disasters and conflicts. Through these activities, Japan will contribute to community stabilization and peace-building.

Note 4 EMBRACE: Acronym for “Ensure Mothers and Babies Regular Access to Care”



Chart I-2

EMBRACE (Ensure Mothers and Babies Regular Access to Care) Model



## 2. New Education Policy

Education builds a foundation that enables people to participate in society. Japan has emphasized assistance in the education sector as one of the essential components for promoting human security. In 2002, Japan announced the “Basic Education for Growth Initiative (BEGIN)”, which defines priority areas as ensuring access to education, improving quality of education, and improving management of education, and has provided both hard and soft assistance, including assistance for the construction of schools and teacher training.

In 2010, with five years remaining until the 2015 deadline for the achievement of the MDGs and the Education for All (EFA) (Note 5) goals, Japan newly established “Japan’s Education Cooperation Policy 2011–2015”, taking into account the diverse needs of developing countries as well as the trends of international discussions on education assistance. Japan unveiled the policy on the occasion of the UN Summit

on the MDGs. Prime Minister Kan announced that, based on this policy, Japan will provide US\$3.5 billion of assistance over five years beginning in 2011 to ensure that children around the world, including marginalized children and children in conflict countries, have access to education. Through this policy, Japan will help to provide a quality educational environment for at least 7 million children (a cumulative total of approximately 25 million children).

The new policy is a comprehensive policy which addresses the education sector as a whole, and is comprised of three pillars: (1) Basic education support; (2) Support for post-basic education (secondary education following completion of primary education, vocational training, and higher education); and (3) Education support in vulnerable countries affected by conflicts and disasters. Under this policy, Japan will strive to contribute to the achievement of the education-

**Note 5** At the World Conference on Education for All held in Jomtien, Thailand in 1990, it was confirmed that all children, youths, and adults should have access to basic education (education to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for survival and education to meet basic learning needs).

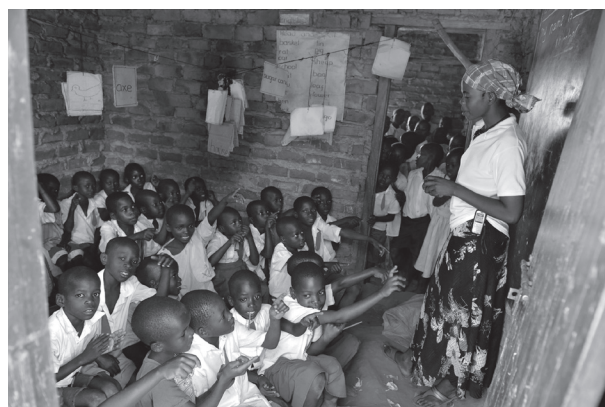
related MDGs and EFA goals, and look ahead beyond 2015 in implementing cooperation and promote the realization of human security.

For basic education support, an area directly linked to the achievement of MDG 2 (Achieve universal primary education), Japan will improve the learning environment comprehensively based on the assistance model of “School for All”, working together with schools, communities, and educational administration. Specifically, Japan will offer appropriate support in line with the country’s needs, focusing on the following five interrelated components: (1) Quality education (e.g., quality of teachers); (2) Safe learning environment (e.g., nutrition, sanitation); (3) Improving school management; (4) Openness to the community; and (5) Inclusive education (addressing the needs of children who are unable to enroll in schools due to poverty, conflict, disability, etc.). Japan will also strengthen support for the Fast Track Initiative (FTI) (Note 6) — the international framework for accelerating progress towards achieving universal primary education, and will actively participate

in the discussion on and the implementation of the reform process and increase contribution to the fund established by the FTI.

In today’s global knowledge-based society, post-basic education is becoming increasingly important in advancing economic growth and international competitiveness and reducing poverty. With the expansion of primary education, there is rising demand for post-basic education. In view of these circumstances, Japan will strengthen vocational training schools to be used as a base for post-basic education, promote the development of networks for higher education, and promote international exchanges and the acceptance of international students by Japanese schools in particular.

Twenty-five million children — approximately 35% of the out-of-school children in the world — live in low-income countries affected by conflicts. In this light, Japan will redouble efforts for education support in vulnerable countries which suffered conflicts and natural disasters.



An elementary school classroom (Uganda) (Photo: Koji Sato/JICA)

**Note 6** An international assistance framework established in April 2002 aimed at promoting the achievement of “universal primary education by 2015” included in the goal of the EFA Dakar Framework for Action and the MDGs.

**Chart I-3 Japan's Basic Education Assistance Model "School for All"**

