

【Side event of TICAD7】

## **Fighting against Zoonoses in Africa: Japan - OIE Cooperation Program**

On Aug. 28, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) held a side event themed “Fighting against zoonoses in Africa” with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries at PACIFICO Yokohama.

In the first session, there was a signing ceremony for the Letter of Intent (LOI) for partnership between JICA and OIE. At the beginning, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Toshiko Abe, took the stand and emphasized the importance of cooperation between the organizations taking part in zoonotic diseases control to improve human and animal health. She announced the launch of “Japan - OIE Cooperation Program<sup>1</sup>”. Then Mr. Kohjiro Takano, parliamentary Vice-Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, spoke welcoming the strengthening of ties between Japan and OIE, brought about by the Program. Following this, Mr. Hiroshi Kato, Senior Vice President of JICA, explained the purpose of LOI, which is (1) developing capacity of human resources working to improve human and animal health, (2) strengthening the technology and skills of veterinary services, and (3) using OIE expertise and networks to help strengthen efficient and effective health systems in developing countries. After this, Mr. Hiroshi Kato and Dr. Jean-Philippe Dop signed LOI in the presence of Dr. Abe and Mr. Takano.

In the second session there was a panel discussion where representatives from OIE and JICA came on stage together with a researcher and an administrator in zoonoses from Japan and overseas. They discussed issues and solutions on zoonotic diseases in Africa, reconfirmed the huge impact of these issues, and shared the strengths of measures taken by each organization. As a result, the panelists affirmed the necessity to improve human and animal health by strengthening cooperation with OIE, which leads the promotion of animal health and control of zoonotic diseases.

### ■Participants

[Signing Ceremony]

Toshiko Abe, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, MOFA

Kohjiro Takano, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, MAFF

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<sup>1</sup> “Japan - OIE Cooperation Program”: For the purpose of addressing the challenges of zoonotic diseases, the program aims to have a synergistic effect by linking JICA’s operations and OIE’s world-wide network and expertise in the field of animal health including zoonoses.

Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General, OIE  
Hiroshi Kato, Senior Vice President, JICA

[Panel Discussion]

Hirohumi Kugita, Regional Representative, OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific

Jean-Philippe Dop, Deputy Director General, OIE

Karim Tounkara, Regional Representative, OIE Regional Representation for Africa

Takao Toda, Vice President for Human Security and Global Health, JICA

Victor Mukonka, Director, Zambia National Public Health Institute

Hiroshi Kida, Head of Research Center for Zoonosis Control, Hokkaido University

#### ■Photos

LOI signed by Mr. Hiroshi Kato and Dr. Jean-Philippe Dop



Panel discussion connected with Zambian participant through skype



#### ■Related SDGs

