

## Talking Points

### Japanese Embassy, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), SAIIA and the University of Pretoria

#### TICAD V: 20 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN JAPAN AND AFRICA “HAND IN HAND WITH A MORE DYNAMIC AFRICA”

##### Changing Africa and Challenges for Japan

Panelist: David Monyae DBSA

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of May 2013

#### 1. Introduction

It is indeed a great pleasure and privilege for me to be part of this important panel. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer of the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) Mr. Patrick Dlamini, board and employees to thank the Japanese Embassy, JICA, SAIIA and the University of Pretoria for inviting me to contribute to this TICAD V, theme titled, 20 Years of Partnership Between Japan and Africa “Hand in Hand with A More Dynamic Africa”. I have been specifically asked to speak on ***Changing Africa and Challenges for Japan***.

- Africa celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2013, just few weeks before marking 20<sup>th</sup> years partnership with Japan through the TICAD process
- The title and theme of for TICAD V, Hand in Hand with a more ***dynamic*** Africa clearly captures the mood: Changing Africa and Challenges for Africa
- There are numerous success stories and achievements registered in Africa since 1963 and even more the advent of the TICAD process in 1993.
  - Peaceful resolutions of conflicts
  - Democratization
  - Economic growth and development in a number of African countries
  - OAU to AU in 2002
  - Nepad and APRM
  - The rising of the African voice in Global Arena through G8 (where Japan plays a critical role), BRICS, UNSC and other forums
  - The rise of Africa as destination of choice for investors – urbanization, youthful population, vast fertile agricultural land and endless other examples

- However, it is not my intension today to deal with the Good and dynamic African stories. The main reason being that our Japanese partners might not see the need to increase their assistance through aid, trade and investments to Africa.
- The main aim of my remarks is emphasize challenges Japan confronts in a changing Africa. In other words, How can Japan collaborate closely with Africans in *tackling Africa's challenges*

### **What are these challenges?**

**There are three major challenges defined by Africans that Japan through TICAD V should focus on**

- Since 2002 the AU has sought to establish integrated frameworks to address Africa's
  - Peace and security
  - Governance
  - Development challenges
- 90 per cent of the AU's peace and security efforts are funded by external actors
- Africa's integration efforts have failed to redress colonial pattern of commerce
- Trade among the AU's 54 countries represents less than 10 per cent of the continent's total trade and have delivered few tangible benefits to its almost 1 billion population
- Africa has not yet achieved goals of registering at least 7 per cent annual growth rates
- Doubling of agriculture capacity
- Infrastructure and water management
- Poor infrastructure accounts for the slow economic growth rates
- Comprehensive international aid for Nepad has not been reached
- Interim donor funding remains unpredictable
- International promise to forgive the large external Debts of African countries of about US\$290 billion have frequently been broken
- Strengthening Africa's voice in global politics
- Uneven development of RECs

**In conclusion**, Africa's development largely depends on close collaboration with strategic partners such as Japan. TICAD V should find innovative ways and means to increase its effective for the attainment of economic growth and development in Africa. It is therefore my assertion that Japan could play a critical role particularly in the areas of DFIs, education and agriculture through TICAD.

**Thank You!**

**The End**