JICA's Peacebuilding Programme - Bridge towards Peacebuilding by Local Government -

1. Background and objectives of the symposium

Africa has made considerable progress in resolving armed conflicts in Africa during the last decade. Moreover, conflict-affected countries have taken initiatives to reconstruct their state and societies. However, there still remain challenges, as there are those countries which face risk of relapse into conflict and instability. In such countries, the challenges facing the government are enormous, including delivering public services to people. The needs and expectation of the people are far greater than the capacity to meet them.

In order to support such African countries, JICA has implemented a wide range of cooperation projects contributing to community recovery through direct support and capacity development of local government. These efforts have contributed to mitigation of factors of conflicts such as regional disparity and insufficient public services, and preventing conflict from arising and resuming.

In this symposium, JICA would like to share the lessons learned from JICA's activities on capacity development of local government in conflict affected situations from the viewpoint of peacebuilding, with audiences, especially people from Africa. The seminar will focus on on-going projects in northern part of Uganda and Sierra Leone, and Darfur region of Sudan.

2. The objectives of the symposium are:

- To introduce JICA's activity on peacebulding,
- To share the insights on how JICA's projects contributed to peacebuilding through capacity development of local government in northern part of Uganda, Sierra Leone and Sudan, and
- To share lesson learned from JICA's experience in the field.

3. Key questions to be addressed will include:

- How significant is the capacity development of local government for sustainable peacebuilding ,
- How JICA's projects were planned and implemented to develop the capacity of local government in northern part of Uganda, Sierra Leone and Darfur region of Sudan, and
- What are the challenges of capacity development of local government in conflict-affected situations

4. Speakers

■ Hon. Hadiru KALOKO, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development,

Sierra Leone

- Mr. Abdelkarim Musa Abdelkarim, State Minister of Physical Planning and Deputy Governor for South Darfur State, Sudan Mr. Patrick K. MUTABWIRE, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government, Uganda
- Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Ahmed ELMAHI, General Rapporteur, Higher Council for Decentralized Governance, Sudan
- Mr. Moses BUKENYA SEGUYA, Chief Administrative Officer, Nwoya District, Uganda
- Mr. Victor KAMARA, Chief Administrator, Kambia District Council, Sierra Leone
- Prof. Osamu KOIKE, Professor of Public Policy and Administration, Graduate School of International Social Sciences, Yokohama National University
- Mr. Ichiro TAMBO, Chief Secretary, Office of President, JICA
- Mr. Kazunori MIURA, Director General, Economic Infrastructure Department, JICA
- Ms. Eri KOMUKAI, Senior Advisor on Peacebuilding, JICA
- Mr. Yusuke KUBO, JICA Expert
- Mr. Atsutoshi HIRABAYASHI, Former JICA Expert
- Ms. Yuko DOHI, Former In-House Consultant on Peacebuilding, JICA

Language: English / French / Japanese