

## **CARD – An Innovative Attempt toward Food Security and Agricultural Development in Africa**

### **1. Background and objectives of the seminar**

The Coalition for African Rice Initiative (CARD) is an initiative launched at the TICAD IV, with the stated objective of doubling the rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa over a period of 10 years between 2008 and 2018. This year marks the mid-point of the Initiative. While there have been a number of accomplishments in the past five years, and steady progress has been made toward achieving the objective, there still remain many challenges to overcome.

### **2. The objectives of the seminar is to:**

- Present achievements of CARD Initiative in the past five years, review issues and challenges and guiding principles of the next five years.
- With a view of promoting the private sector in agricultural development in Africa:
  - Acknowledge the existence of various levels of private-sector players that are active in Africa, and that all of them, large- and small-scale, domestic and international, can play significant roles for Africa's economic development through agriculture; and
  - Understand that the needs for creating enabling environment in order to facilitate local activities of various private-sector players.

### **3. Key questions to be addressed will include:**

- What potential does African agriculture have for private-sector players such as investors?
- What areas in African agriculture are private sectors involved, and what business environment do they need to be more viable and vibrant?
- How has government of some African countries responded to the need for creation of enabling environment, and how can the efforts be further strengthened?
- What are the roles of development partners to create enabling business environment in agriculture in Africa?
- What actions can the CARD Initiative take after the event?

### **4. Speakers**

- H.E. Dr. Akinwumi Ayodeji ADESINA, Minister, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Federal Republic of Nigeria
- H.E. Mr. Mahama ZOUNGRANA, Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Burkina Faso
- Dr. Keijiro OTSUKA, Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)

- Mr. Desmond SHEEHY, CEO, Duxton Asset
- Pastor Marty Solomon Bower TETTEH, National President, Ghana Agri-Input Dealers Association (GAIDA)
- Mr. Yoshisuke KISHIDA, President, Shin-Norinsha Co., Ltd.
- Dr. Geoffrey Israel KIRENGA, CEO, The Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT)
- Mr. Takanori SATOYAMA, Coordinator, CARD Secretariat

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