1. Background

When TICAD V was held in Yokohama in 2013, JICA produced a report titled "Africa 2050: Realizing the Continent's Full Potential," in collaboration with the Centennial Group International. The report laid out an ambitious but plausible vision of African in 2015. Under one of the scenarios presented in the report, by 2050, per capita incomes in Africa would quadruple, poverty would be reduced ten-fold, two thirds of the population would be middle class, and Africa's share of world GDP would nearly triple.

Three years has passed since then, and today, the global economic environment surrounding Africa has substantially changed: It is much less favorable than the one prevailing in 2013. At that time, most African economies were delivering strong performance. They were also greatly facilitated by exceptional external circumstances: ever-increasing commodity prices, strong global growth, and highly liquid global capital markets, which have now ended and are very unlikely to return soon.

For TICAD VI, and to accommodate the changes that have taken place since 2013, JICA and the Centennial Group International have come up with six policy papers, which update the original analyses done in 2013. Thus the event will start with a presentation of the updated policy paper "Africa 2050," and it will be followed by the interventions of high level panelists, who will share their views on the analysis of the current situation and future prospects, along with their policy proposals to achieve the desirable future of Africa they envisage.

2. Objectives

■ To share the updated "Africa 2050: Realizing the Continent's Full Potential".
■ To discuss the challenges and opportunities of Africa from a long-term perspective.
■ To exchange views on policy options and action agendas to accelerate economic growth of Africa that is both sustainable and inclusive.

3. Key Questions

■ How have the economic conditions changed since 2013?
■ What are the needed policy responses to restart the process of African convergence with the rest of the world?
■ How best can various development partners assist their African partners in this process?

4. Speakers

■ Mr. Hiroshi Kato, Vice President, JICA
■ Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President, African Development Bank
■ TBD, Mr. Trevor Manuel, Former Minister of Finance, South Africa
■ TBD, Ms. Nialé Kaba, Minister, Ministry of Planning and Development, Côte d’Ivoire
■ Mr. Harinder Kohli, President, Centennial Group
■ Mr. Theodore Ahlers, Centennial Group