

【Side event of TICAD7】

IFNA Yokohama Declaration 2019: Improving Nutrition for 200 Million Children in Africa

On August 27, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), in collaboration with AUDA-NEPAD¹, held a high-level side event of TICAD at the InterContinental Yokohama Grand to promote the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA).

IFNA is a JICA-led international initiative launched at TICAD VI in 2016 to promote efforts by the international community to improve nutrition in Africa. This event was held in order to discuss in detail the results that IFNA has achieved thus far and to build upon these activities to accelerate global nutritional improvement. This event also served as a milestone ahead of the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit, which will be held in Tokyo in 2020.

At the commencement of the event, Dr. Shinichi Kitaoka, the President of JICA, and Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, the Chief Executive Officer of AUDA-NEPAD, delivered opening remarks. In his remarks, Dr. Kitaoka highlighted some cases of IFNA's achievement in Rwanda and Madagascar and pointed out the importance of taking a multi-sectoral approach to nutritional improvement. He especially stressed the significance of agricultural interventions centered on a Nutrition Focused Approach. In concluding his remarks, Dr. Kitaoka made a call for action to improve nutritional conditions of all 200 million children in Africa. For his part, Dr. Mayaki added to Dr. Kitaoka's sentiments by emphasizing the uniqueness of IFNA's efforts and stating that IFNA's approach should be disseminated to all countries throughout Africa.

In his keynote speech, H.E. Mr. Andry Rajoelina, the President of the Republic of Madagascar, shared his determination to improve nutrition for all citizens. Throughout his remarks, H.E. Mr. Rajoelina underscored that all stakeholders must be involved in this effort to achieve successful results.

With strong support from Dr. Kitaoka and Dr. Mayaki and members of the audience, the "IFNA Yokohama Declaration 2019" was established to call on all

stakeholders to take action for nutrition improvement.



Following the signing of the IFNA Yokohama Declaration, the event held panel discussions regarding nutrition in Africa. The panelists included Ms. Gerda Verburg, the Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Coordinator of the SUN Movement²; Dr. Qu Dongyu, the Director-General of FAO; ministers from Africa; international organization representatives; and representatives from the private sector and civil society organizations. Throughout these sessions, the panelists discussed in detail how they will work to realize the newly signed IFNA Yokohama Declaration. Audience members also asked questions to the panelists to create a lively discussion.

Africa's population below the age of five is estimated to reach approximately 200 million by 2025; however, children continue to be the biggest victims of malnutrition. This means improving nutritional status of children is essential to

ensure the future of Africa. JICA will continue working toward addressing this challenge alongside partners from all across the world.

■ Participants

[Opening Remarks]

- Shinichi Kitaoka, President of JICA
- Ibrahim Mayaki, CEO, AUDA-NEPAD

[Keynote Speech]

- Andry Rajoelina, President, Republic of Madagascar

[Panelists]

- Uzziel Ndagijimana, Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Republic of Rwanda
- Hamadi Iddi Boga, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation, Republic of Kenya
- François Sawadogo, Director General of Studies and Sectoral Statistics, Ministry of National Education, Literacy and Promotion of National Languages, Burkina Faso
- Qu Dongyu, Director-General of FAO
- Muhammad Ali Pate, Global Director, Health, Nutrition and Population, World Bank
- Mohamed Fall, Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, UNICEF
- Belay Begashaw, Director General, SDG Center for Africa (SDGC/A)
- Gerda Verburg, UN Assistant Secretary-General and SUN Movement Coordinator
- Ichiro Nishikura, Taskforce for Nutrition Improvement, Associate General Manager, Global Corporate Division, Ajinomoto Co., Inc.
- Kohsuke Hara, Programme Manager, Alliance Forum Foundation
- Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

■ Notes

- 1) AUDA-NEPAD: African Union Development Agency - New Partnership for Africa's Development
- 2) SUN Movement: Scaling Up Nutrition Movement, the United Nations

■ Photos



■ Related links

Organizer speech by Dr.Kitaoka

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/president/speech/190827_01.html

■ Related SDGs

