Thematic Evaluation on Communicable Disease Control in Africa

September 2005

Japan International Cooperation Agency Planning Coordinatin Department

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Preface

Japanese cooperation activities in Africa through Official Development Assistance (ODA) in the field of health and medicine have focused on infectious diseases control, which has strengthened cooperation in the establishment of research institutes combined with capacity development in such countries as Ghana, Kenya, and Zambia.

While the research capabilities of the institutes in these countries have been enhanced, the focus of cooperation has shifted from strengthening research capabilities towards cooperation that targets the nation as a whole. Under this situation, the need to reconsider the functions and role of research institutes for infectious diseases has continued to arise.

In the analytical process of the Thematic Evaluation on Communicable Diseases Control in Africa, an examination of the contribution to infectious diseases control of JICA's cooperation with research institutes and an analysis of the expected functions and roles of such institutes has been conducted through an evaluation of cooperation with medical research institutes in Ghana, Kenya, and Zambia and this has led to consideration of the direction for future project implementation.

The report on the Thematic Evaluation on Communicable Diseases Control in Africa has now been completed, based on discussions regarding the framework of the evaluation, the evaluation methodology, and the results of the evaluation by the evaluation investigative committee composed of Professor Hiroshi SUZUKI of the Niigata University Graduate School, Doctor Yasuo MORITSUGU, ex-Deputy Director, National Institute for Infectious Diseases (former the National Institute of Health), and Professor Koichi MIYOSHI of the Graduate School of Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University. In addition, in order to ensure the quality and objectivity of the evaluation, a separate external evaluation by intellectuals from Kenya and Zambia was also conducted. The results of their evaluation are attached at the end of the analysis.

Recommendations from the evaluation analysis will be put to practical use in project formulation and implementation in the area of communicable diseases control. Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the cooperation and support of all those involved in this evaluation survey.

Seiji KOJIMA, Vice-President Japan International Cooperation Agency September 2005

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