
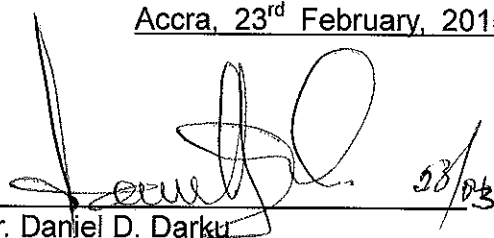
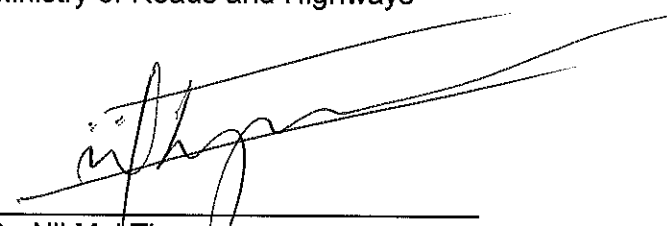


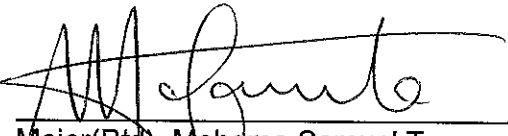
RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS
ON
THE PROJECT ON THE CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT
FOR WEST AFRICA GROWTH RING MASTER PLAN
IN
THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA
AGREED UPON BETWEEN
MINISTRY OF ROADS AND HIGHWAYS
AND
JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY

Accra, 23rd February, 2015


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In the framework of the Detailed Planning Survey on the Project on the Corridor Development for West Africa Growth Ring Master Plan (hereinafter referred to as "the Project") , a mission of Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as "JICA") stayed in Accra from 28th September to 1st October 2014.

During the mission, the Ministry of Roads and Highways (hereinafter referred to as "MRH") and JICA had a series of discussions, for which relevant departments took part, for the elaboration of a detailed plan of the Project.

As a result of the discussions, the two parties agreed to sign on the 1st of October 2014 the Minutes of Meeting describing the principal points of discussions mentioned in this draft of the Record of Discussions enabling to proceed to the implementation of the Project.

The two parties agreed on the details of the Project and the principal points of discussion mentioned in the Appendix 1 and the Appendix 2 annexed to this R/D.

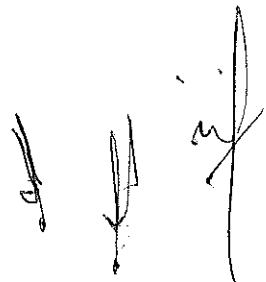
The two parties also agreed that MRH, the main counterpart to JICA, will be responsible for the implementation of the Project in cooperation with JICA. The National Development Planning Commission (hereinafter referred to as "NDPC" will assume the coordination of the Project with the participation of other relevant organizations to ensure the self-reliant operation of the Project during and after the implementation period. In this way, the Project contributes toward social and economic development of the region along the corridors concerned by the Project.

The Project will be implemented in conformity with the framework of the Note Verbales to be exchanged between the Government of Japan (hereinafter referred to as "GoJ") and the Government of Republic of Ghana (hereinafter referred to as "GoG").

The effectiveness of the record of discussions is subject to the exchange of the Note Verbales.

Appendix 1: Project Description
Appendix 2: Main Points Discussed

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

I. BACKGROUND

The West Africa Growth Ring consists of four corridors, namely Abidjan-Ouagadougou corridor, Accra-Ouagadougou corridor, Lomé-Ouagadougou corridor and Abidjan-Lagos corridor. The Project concerns principally Abidjan-Ouagadougou corridor, Accra-Ouagadougou corridor and Lomé-Ouagadougou corridor, connecting four countries in West Africa (Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo).

These corridors concern the significant trunk roads which connect major coastal capitals in the West Africa and principal road networks for the hinterlands. The economy of this area and its surroundings, with a population of over 300 million, has constantly shown high growth in recent years. The real growth rate has been hovering around 7% since 2013. This expansion in the economy has been reflected directly on the demand for transportation.

However, taking into consideration of current situation on infrastructure and social capital, several obstacles hamper the economic development. For instance, the major constraining factors of industrial promotion and economic growth in this area are high transportation cost, low productivities of agriculture and expensive labor cost. The indirect cost on the transportation is one the most expensive compared to that in Asia or Latin America.

Aware of various development potentials along the corridors composing of the West Africa Growth Ring, GoG considers the necessity to complement existing development plans to promote investment and to reduce the poverty among the local people in the zone of the Growth Ring.

The Project has the objectives to identify the existing obstacles in the corridors and propose the ways to overcome them. The solutions, taken account of potentials, risks and constraints of development, have to facilitate the development of this region through analyzing the probable impact of existing projects. In that context, GoG has solicited the GoJ for the realization of the Project.

This request complies with the GoJ's cooperation policy, which aims to stimulate regional and local economies and align well with the JICA's cooperation program. In addition, the Project is based on one of the initiatives in the Yokohama Declaration as a result of the TICAD V held in Yokohama, Japan in June 2013.

II. OUTLINE OF THE PROJECT

1. Title of the Project

The Project has the title: Project on the Corridor Development for West Africa Growth Ring Master Plan

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2. Expected Goals which will be attained after the Project Completion

(1) The objective of the Project is to propose the strategies and plans to promote investment and development along the project corridors within the context of a national development framework.

(2) The proposed development strategies and plans are approved and implemented by GoG.

(3) These strategies and plans are to enable regional development, reinforce economic growth and promote foreign investment by making most of the development potential and resources of the countries along the Project Corridors, including the Abidjan-Lagos corridor.

3. Outputs

(1) Integrated development plans consistent with sub-regional development plans and national development plans.

(2) Database of various sectors attracting investment at national, regional and international levels.

(3) Transportation data based on the Origin-Destination (OD) survey.

4. Principal Activities

The activities to be undertaken within the framework of the Project are as follows;

(1) Review of existing development plans, development projects, studies, and public and private investments

(2) Collection of available data and information concerning the area under the direct influence of the Project and its surroundings

(3) OD Survey for cargo transportation

(4) Corridor diagnostic analysis

(5) Socio-economic study

(6) Multi-sector surveys concerning the Project Corridors

(7) Identification and analysis of constraints, promoting factors and potential for development

(8) Proposition of establishment of social economic framework for the Project

(9) Analysis and proposition on the alternative development scenarios

(10) Strategic environmental assessment of alternative development scenarios

(11) Formulation of integrated development strategies

(12) Recommendation of measures to complement on-going and planned development projects

(13) Proposition of projects in selected sectors in accordance with the integrated development strategies

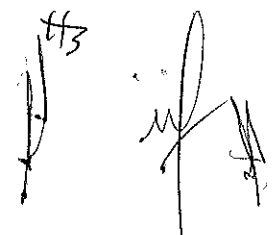
(14) Prioritization of the development projects which will be proposed at national and sub-regional level

(15) Holding of international seminars to share the progress and results of the Project

5. Input for the Project

(1) Input by JICA

JICA, on the basis of its own resources, will implement the activities cited



below:

(a) Dispatch of Mission

During the mission, JICA dispatches the experts to assure the achievement of the objectives of the Project. These experts are in charge of the fields cited below;

- 1) Sub-regional development (Team Leader)
- 2) Industrial Development
- 3) Transportation (Road, Railway, Port, Airport)
- 4) Logistics
- 5) Private Sector Development
- 6) Natural Resource and Energy
- 7) Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery
- 8) Urban Development
- 9) Water Resources
- 10) Agro-processing
- 11) Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
- 12) Economic and Financial Analysis
- 13) Environment and Social Considerations
- 14) Internal coordination (Assistant of the Team Leader)

Input other than indicated above will be determined considering the necessity through mutual consultations between JICA and MRH during the implementation of the Project.

(b) Training in Japan

JICA will organize training courses in Japan on the Corridor Development during the Project period.

(2) Input by MRH/GoG

MRH/GoG, on the basis of its own resources, will be responsible for the activities cited below:

- (a) To assure services of MRH/GoG's counterpart personnel and administrative personnel as referred to in II-6;
- (b) To provide suitable office space with necessary equipment;
- (c) To provide necessary information and assistance to have access on medical service;
- (d) To provide the members of the JICA missions with credentials or identification cards if necessary;
- (e) To provide available data (including maps and photographs) and information related to the Project;
- (f) To assure expenses necessary for the implementation of the Project; and
- (g) To provide the members of the JICA missions with necessary assistance for the remittance as well as utilization of the funds transferred to the Republic of Ghana from Japan in connection with the implementation of the Project.

6. Implementation Structure

The Project organization chart is given in the Annex 1. The roles and assignments of MRH/GoG, the mission team of JICA and relevant organizations are as follows:

(1) MRH

(a) Project Director, the Chief Director of MRH

The Project Director will be responsible for overall administration and implementation of the Project.

(b) Project Manager, Director of Policy and Planning of MRH

The Project Manager will manage implementation of the Project.

(2) The Mission Team of JICA

The JICA missions will give principal orientation, conduct the necessary technical studies and give recommendation to MRH/GoG and the countries involved in the Project for the elaboration of the Master Plan and its implementation.

(3) Technical Committee

Technical Committee (hereinafter referred to as "TC") will be established in order to facilitate inter-organizational coordination. TC meetings will be held under the chairmanship of NDPC whenever it is deemed necessary. A list of proposed members of TC is shown in the Annex 2-1.

(4) Steering Committee

Steering Committee (hereinafter referred to as "SC") will be established in order to facilitate inter-organizational and international coordination and to approve the proposed strategies and plans with due consideration of sub-regional integration. A list of proposed members of SC is shown in the Annex 2-2.

7. Project Site and Beneficiaries

(1) Project Site

Project site is shown in Annex 3.

(2) Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are all the communities along the Project Corridors.

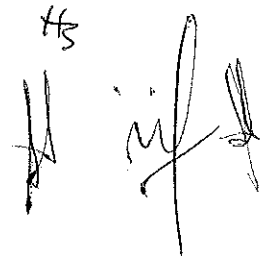
8. Duration

The Project will be carried out for approximately 18 months.

9. Reports

JICA will prepare, submit and make presentation on the following reports to MRH/GoG in English.

- (1) 20 copies of Inception Report (ICR) containing a work plan at the commencement of the first work period of the study
- (2) 20 copies of Interim Report (ITR) at the time about 7 months after the commencement of the first work period of the study



- (3) 20 copies of Draft Final Report (DFR) at the end of the last work period of the study
- (4) 20 copies of Final Report within two (2) months after the receipt of the comments on the Draft Final Report

10. Environmental and Social Considerations

- (1) MRH/GoG agreed to apply both national environmental guidelines and 'JICA Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations' in order to ensure that appropriate considerations will be made for the environmental and social impacts of the Project.

III. UNDERTAKINGS OF MRH/GoG

1. MRH/GoG will take necessary measures to:

- (1) ensure that the technologies and knowledge acquired as a result of Japanese technical cooperation contributes to the economic and social development of the Republic of Ghana, and that the knowledge and experience acquired by the personnel of the Republic of Ghana from technical training as well as the equipment provided by JICA will be utilized effectively in the implementation of the Project;
- (2) facilitate the grant of privileges, exemptions and benefits to the members of the JICA missions referred to in II-5 (1) above, which are no less favorable than those granted to experts and members of the missions of third countries or international organizations performing similar missions in the Republic of Ghana;
- (3) provide security-related information as well as measures to ensure the safety of the members of the JICA missions; and
- (4) permit the members of the JICA missions to enter, leave and sojourn in the Republic of Ghana for the duration of their assignments therein and exempt them from foreign registration requirements and consular fees.
- (5) Other privileges, exemptions and benefits will be provided in accordance with the Note Verbales to be exchanged between GoJ and GoG.

IV. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

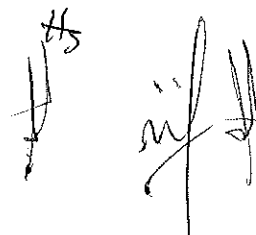
JICA will conduct the following evaluations and surveys to mainly verify sustainability and impact of the Project and draw lessons.

1. Ex-post evaluation three (3) years after the project completion, in principle
2. Follow-up surveys on necessity basis

MRH/GoG may be required to provide necessary support for them.

V. PROMOTION OF PUBLIC SUPPORT

For the purpose of promoting support for the Project, MRH/GoG will take appropriate measures to make the Project widely known to the people of the Republic of Ghana.



VI. Fraudulent and Corrupt Practices

If JICA receives information related to suspected corrupt or fraudulent practices in the implementation of the Project, MRH/GoG and relevant organizations shall provide JICA with such information as JICA may reasonably request and vice versa. MRH/GoG and JICA will not, unfairly or unfavorably treat the person and/or company which provided the information related to suspected corrupt or fraudulent practices in the implementation of the Project in accordance with the respective laws.

VII. MUTUAL CONSULTATION

JICA and MRH/GoG shall consult each other whenever any major issues arise in the course of Project implementation.

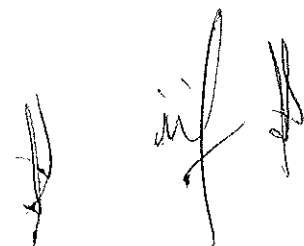
VIII. AMENDMENTS

The record of discussions may be amended by subsequent Minutes of Meeting between JICA and MRH/GoG.

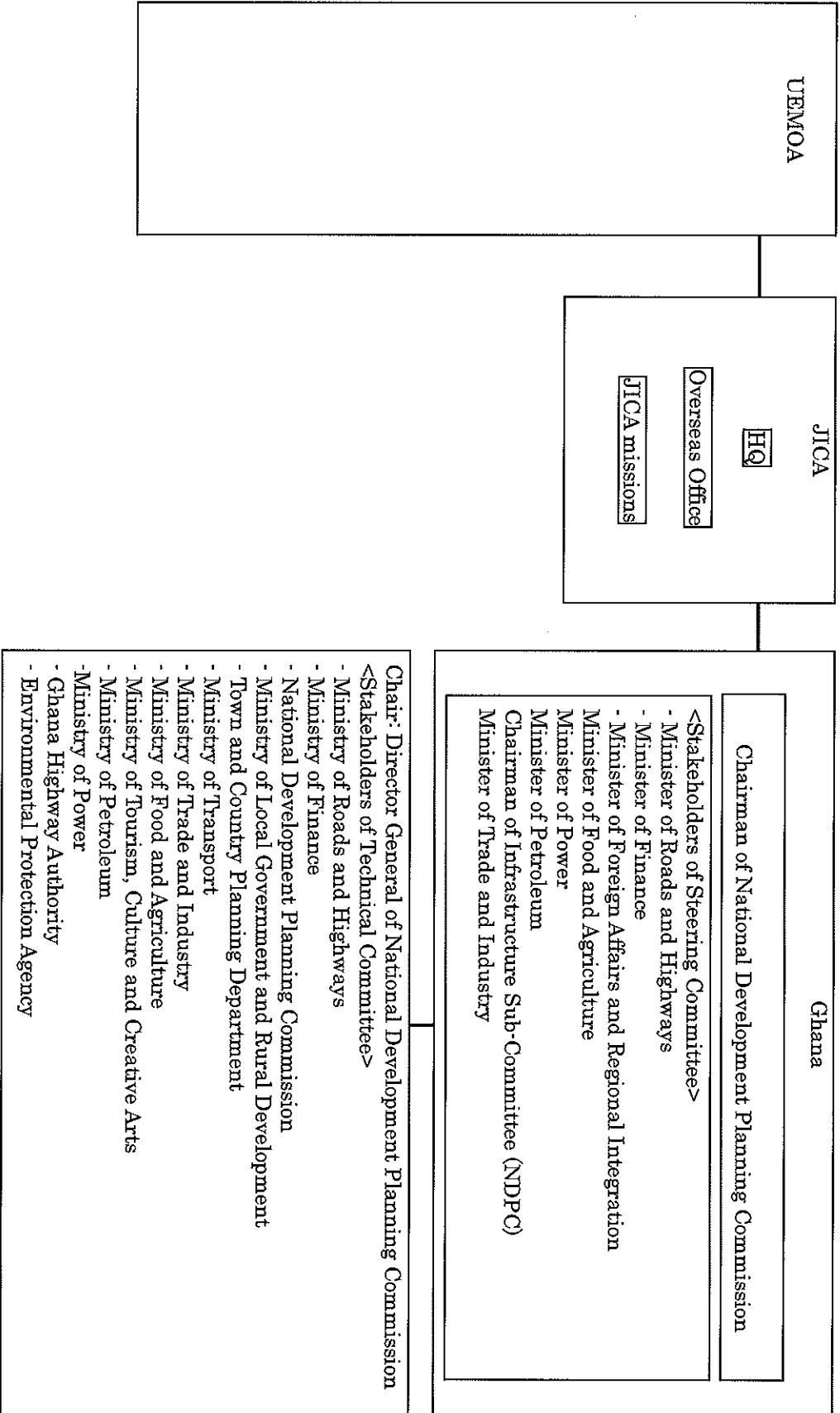
The Minutes of Meeting will be signed by authorized persons of each side who may be different from the signers of the Record of Discussions.

- Annex 1 Project Organization Chart
- Annex 2-1 A List of Proposed Members of Technical Committee
- Annex 2-2 A List of Proposed Members of Steering Committee
- Annex 3 Project site

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Project Organization Chart



A List of Proposed Members of Technical Committee

- a. Chair : Director General of National Development Planning Commission
- b. Members : Ministry of Roads and Highways
Ministry of Finance
National Development Planning Commission
Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
Town and Country Planning Department
Ministry of Transport
Ministry of Trade and Industry
Ministry of Food and Agriculture
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts
Ministry of Petroleum
Ministry of Power
Ghana Highway Authority
Environmental Protection Agency

JICA representatives

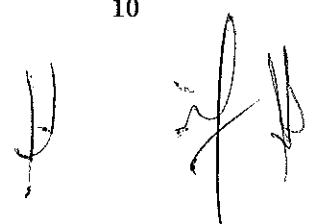
The chair may invite necessary representatives of relevant ministries and other bodies other than those indicated above.

d. Functions

The Technical Committee will meet when the JICA missions submit reports and/or whenever the necessity arises in order to fulfill the following functions;

- 1) To monitor and advise the entire project
- 2) To coordinate among the relevant organizations; and
- 3) To review and exchange views on major issues arising from or in connection with the Project.

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A List of Proposed Members of Steering Committee

a. Chair : Chairman of National Development Planning Commission

b. Members : (1) Ghana
Minister of Roads and Highways
Minister of Finance
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration
Minister of Food and Agriculture
Minister of Power
Minister of Petroleum
Chairman of Infrastructure Sub-Committee (NDPC)
Minister of Trade and Industry

JICA representatives

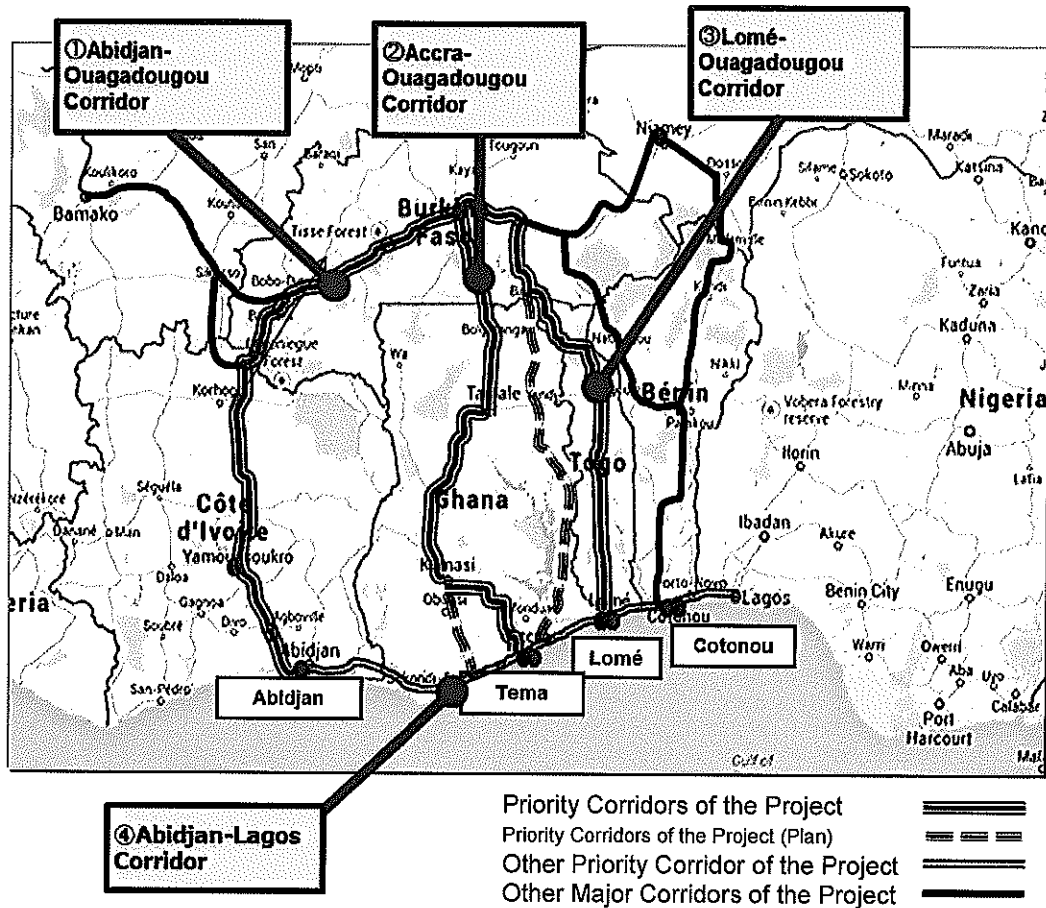
c. Functions

- 1) To approve the proposed strategies and plans with due consideration of sub-regional integration
- 2) To facilitate international coordination

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Project site



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MAIN POINTS DISCUSSED

1. Report Language

Report will be done in English and French, both equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English report shall prevail.

2. Expenses necessary for the implementation of the Project

MRH/GoG is in charge of expenses below;

- provision of office space, information and data to the JICA missions;
- assignment of counterpart staff and their travel expenses for the Project; and
- preparation to hold meetings and workshops for the validation of the reports provided by the JICA mission.

3. TOR of Environmental and Social Considerations

The project should include Terms of Reference (TOR) for Environmental and Social Considerations in line with the JICA Guidelines and national environmental guidelines as follows;

- 1) Consideration of alternatives for achieving the goals of the Project,
- 2) Consideration of contents of the developed policy and plans,
- 3) Definition of the field of the impact study or framework of the Project (scoping),
- 4) Confirmation of environment and social situation,
- 5) Confirmation of system and regulation for environment and social consideration,
- 6) Identification of the environmental impact,
- 7) Evaluation of the environmental impact and examination of alternatives,
- 8) Proposition of mitigation measures ,
- 9) Establishment of monitoring method, and
- 10) Assistance of stakeholder meetings.

4. Functions of Committees and their timing and format of Meetings

To achieve the Expected Goals, functions of TC and SC and their timing and style of meetings are elaborated as shown in Table-1.

5. Implementation Structure of the Project

GoG and the Commission of West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) submitted the request separately to GoJ but at the same time. JICA, therefore, decided to conduct the Project simultaneously, covering the area of the West Africa Growth Ring connecting Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and neighboring countries shown in Annex 3.

Although the current implementation structure separates the Ghana and UEMOA sides, JICA emphasizes that it is desirable to create opportunities for the best coordination of plans between them from the view point of harmonized development among the countries aiming for regional integration promotion. GoG therefore emphasized the need to collaborate with ECOWAS to provide sub-regional perspective of the Project.



Table-1: Functions of Committees and their Timing and Format of Meetings

	Functions	Member		Timing and Format of Meetings
SC	Facilitate inter-organizational and International coordination Approve the proposed strategies and plans with due consideration of sub-regional integration	<p>Ghana</p> <p><Chair> Chairman of National Development Planning Commission</p> <p><Member></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister of Roads and Highways Minister of Finance Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration Minister of Food and Agriculture Minister of Power Minister of Petroleum Chairman of Infrastructure Sub-Committee (NDPC) Minister of Trade and Industry 	<p>JICA</p> <p>HQ</p> <p>Overseas Office</p> <p>JICA missions</p>	<p>ICR</p> <p>ITR</p> <p>DFR</p>
TC	For discussions to provide technical input and inter-ministerial coordination	<p><Chair> Director General of National Development Planning Commission</p> <p><Member></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Roads and Highways Ministry of Finance National Development Planning Commission Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development Town and Country Planning Department Ministry of Transport Ministry of Trade and Industry Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts Ministry of Petroleum Ministry of Power Ghana Highway Authority Environmental Protection Agency 		<p>To be held at least 3 times;</p> <p>ICR</p> <p>ITR</p> <p>DFR</p>