

[Translation]

Annual Report  
of  
the Examiners for the JICA Guidelines  
for Environmental and Social Considerations

Fiscal Year 2018

The Examiners for the JICA Guidelines  
for Environmental and Social Considerations

Japan International Cooperation Agency  
(JICA)

## Objection System

To ensure compliance with the “Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations” published in April 2010 (hereinafter referred to as the “Guidelines”) of Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as “JICA”), JICA has appointed external examiners for the Guidelines (hereinafter referred to as the “Examiners”), who are to report their findings directly to the President of JICA (hereinafter referred to as the “President”) and are independent from the departments of JICA responsible for individual projects and environmental and social considerations analysis (hereinafter referred to as the “Operational Departments”).

The objectives of the Objection System are (1) to investigate whether facts behind alleged JICA’s non-compliance exist or not and report the results to the President, aiming to ensure JICA’s compliance with the Guidelines; and (2) to encourage dialogues among the parties concerned, such as those who submitted objections (hereinafter referred to as the “Requesters”), the borrower countries or those who carry out the project (hereinafter referred to as the “Project Proponents”), by their mutual consent, to promptly solve specific environmental and social disputes arising from JICA’s non-compliance with the Guidelines in the context of JICA-supported projects.

The Examiners are required to promote realization of the objectives in compliance with basic principles, namely, independence, neutrality, efficiency, promptness and transparency.

For the details of the procedures for submitting a request to raise objections (hereinafter referred to as the “Request”), please refer to the “Objection Procedures Based on the Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations” (proclaimed in April 2010) (hereinafter referred to as the “Objection Procedures”), posted on the following website: [http://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/social\\_environmental/objection/c8h0vm0000013oil-att/objection.pdf](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/social_environmental/objection/c8h0vm0000013oil-att/objection.pdf)

### Annual Report of the Examiners

This annual report has been prepared to publicize the activities provided by the Examiners for Fiscal Year 2018, in accordance with the Objection Procedures.

## Acknowledgements

This annual report has been prepared in accordance with the Objection Procedures.

As stipulated in the Objection Procedures, the objectives of the Examiners' activities are to find the facts whether JICA has complied with the Guidelines or not and to encourage dialogues among the parties concerned, to promptly solve specific environmental and social disputes of JICA-supported projects, thereby ultimately encouraging JICA's compliance with the Guidelines. In Fiscal Year 2018, no Requests have been made.

The Examiners would like to take this opportunity to thank you all who cooperated in the objection procedures based on the Guidelines for Environment and Social Considerations.

May 2018

Examiners for the Guidelines

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Mr. HAYASE, Takashi

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(Listed in the order of the Japanese syllabary)

## I. OUTLINE OF THE ACTIVITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018

### 1. Number of the Requests received

For Fiscal Year 2018, no Requests have been received by the Examiners.

### 2. Number of cases with respect to which the procedures were determined to be commenced/ suspended/ not to be commenced

There were no cases with respect to which the procedures were determined to be commenced, being suspended or rejected for Fiscal Year 2018.

### 3. Review and analysis of the reasons for making decisions to suspend and/or not to commence the procedures

N/A

### 4. Preparation of the investigation reports by the Examiners in response to the Requests

There were no investigation reports prepared by the Examiners for Fiscal Year 2018.

### 5. Analysis with respect to the non-compliance with the Guidelines alleged in the Request

N/A

### 6. Opinion from the Requesters

N/A

### 7. Confirmation of Status of the Implementation of Instructions made by the President

(1) Status of the Implementation of Instructions made by the President in respect to the “Thilawa Special Economic Zone Development Project in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar”

With respect to this project, the Examiners conducted hearings with the Operational Department on March 12, 2019, in accordance with the first sentence of Paragraph 2 of Article 13 of the Objection Procedures. The Operational Department reported to the Examiners that the Myanmar government is continuing its efforts in response to the Examiners’ proposals<sup>1</sup>. The Examiners had a meeting with the President of JICA on the same

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<sup>1</sup> 3.5. “Problem solving methods” and 3.6. “Continuous support” of the “Investigation Report on the Request based on the Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations concerning the Thilawa Special

day and advised the President to continue appropriate approaches to the Myanmar government.

(2) Status of the Implementation of Instructions made by the President in respect to the “Support for Agricultural Development Master Plan for Nacala Corridor in the Republic of Mozambique”

With respect to this project, the Examiners conducted hearings with the Operational Department on March 12, 2019, in accordance with the first sentence of Paragraph 2 of Article 13 of the Objection Procedures. The Operational Department reported to the Examiners that it has focused on promoting dialogues widely incorporating the Mozambican government and local farmers' organizations in response to the Examiners' proposals<sup>2</sup>, but it may take more time to reconcile their opinions. The Examiners had a meeting with the President of JICA on the same day and advised the President to continue following-up on the Mozambican government's efforts to promote such dialogues.

## II. PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

1. Participation in the “Regional Workshops on Enhanced Understanding of the Environmental and Social Compliance and Accountability to Project Affected Persons by Financial Intermediaries”

To ensure and enhance environmental and social compliance by financial intermediaries, the “Regional Workshops on Enhanced Understanding of the Environmental and Social Compliance and Accountability to Project Affected Persons by Financial Intermediaries” co-hosted by the Office of Compliance Review Panel of the Asian Development Bank and the International Department of the Ministry of Finance of the People's Republic of China and the Policy Research Bureau of the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission were held. These workshops were participated by Chinese financial institutions, international financial organizations, international NGOs, etc., and held in Beijing on June 12, 2018 and in Xiamen on June 14 and 15, 2018. The Examiners, Mr. Matsushita and Ms. Kaneko, participated in these workshops and introduced the system of objection procedures based on

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Economic Zone Development Project in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar” dated November, 2014 ([https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/social\\_environmental/objection/c8h0vm00008zvp4f-att/report.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/social_environmental/objection/c8h0vm00008zvp4f-att/report.pdf))

<sup>2</sup> “(2) Proposal to JICA” of Chapter 4 of the “Investigation Report on the Request based on the Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations concerning the Support for Agricultural Development Master Plan for Nacala Corridor in the Republic of Mozambique” dated November, 2017 ([https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/social\\_environmental/objection/c8h0vm0000b81di4-att/mozambique\\_01\\_06.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/social_environmental/objection/c8h0vm0000b81di4-att/mozambique_01_06.pdf))

the Guidelines for Environmental and Social Considerations of JICA, and also shared information and exchanged opinions with the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the European Investment Bank, etc.

## 2. Participation in the annual general meeting of the Independent Accountability Mechanisms Network

The Independent Accountability Mechanisms Network (IAMnet) is a network for experts involved in strengthening accountability and compliance related to the environmental and social considerations to regularly exchange views, as part of internal controls and audits at international financial institutions and development assistance agencies. Since 2016, JICA has been participating in the annual general meeting of IAMnet as an observer.

In Fiscal Year 2018, the fifteenth annual general meeting of IAMnet was held in Washington, D.C., the United States, from November 12 to 14 hosted by the World Bank, in which the Examiner, Mr. Matsushita, participated. At the meeting, the parties concerned for objection procedures for international financial institutions and development assistance agencies, etc., shared information and discussed issues. In addition, roundtables were held with NGOs and CSOs.

### III. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

#### 1. Examiners

The Examiners have been appointed by the President pursuant to the Guidelines and the Objection Procedures both of which were proclaimed on April 1, 2010, and enforced on July 1, 2010.

#### 2. Secretariat for the Examiners

In order to process works in relation to the Examiners, a Secretariat was organized in accordance with the Objection Procedures.

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