

## Project kickoff meeting (June 8, 2012)

The project kickoff meeting and the first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting were held at the Panafric hotel on June 8, 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya. The Japanese and Kenyan stakeholders shared the purpose and the plans for this 5-year project.

The kickoff meeting drew in approximately 60 participants including the Minister of the Embassy of Japan in Kenya, Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Kenya office, Chief Researcher at Japan Science and Technology (JST), Head of the Department of Disease Prevention and Control at the Ministry of Health in Kenya, and the Director of the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) to commemorate the commencement of the Project.

The meeting was composed of three sections: 1. “Arbovirus infection control measures around the world,” 2. “KEMRI’s roles,” and 3. “Disease outbreak alert network in Kenya.” In the 1st Section, there was a lively discussion with guest speakers from WHO and the CDC-KEMRI. In the 2nd and 3rd section, objectives and aims of the Project were shared to the participants.



Photo 1: Kick-off meeting participants



Photo 2: Opening remarks by Dr. Sharif, Director of the Ministry of Health in Kenya