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**Report of the TICAD V Thematic Session Theme V: “Enhancement of  
Peacebuilding”**

**Yokohama, JAPAN**

**03 June, 2013**

Your Excellencies, Heads of States and Government  
Heads of Delegations,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In summarizing a very substantial and productive session on 'Enhancement of Peacebuilding', I first wish to thank the Heads of State and Government and the numerous delegations that actively participated in the discussions for their valuable contributions. The Session was organized in two sub-sessions, the first one focused on the Development and Humanitarian Assistance/ Governance and Institutional Capacity and the Second on African Initiatives and Regional Efforts. There was a special focus on Mali and the Sahel region in the discussions.

I would like to thank H.E Mr Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan and H.E Mr Dioncounda Traore, Interim President of Mali who made the opening remarks. I am also grateful to Presidents Blaise Compaore, Macky Sall, Alassane Ouattara and Ikililou Dhoinine for their lead remarks.

The Prime Minister of Japan reiterated his Government and the people of Japan's commitment for Africa's peace and stability. He rightly stated that there can be no development without peace. To this end, he announced Japan's intention to support the continent and in particular the Sahel region with three concrete measures:

1. Japan will provide 100 billion yen in assistance over five years for the development and stability of the Sahel;
2. Japan will provide assistance to enhance the capability of the countries in the Sahel to enable them to engage in Counter Terrorism and the maintenance of security by training 2,000 security personnel across the region and supplying appropriate equipment;
3. Japan will build a framework for dialogue with the Sahel region in a multi-layered manner and foster an even stronger and more solid relationship with the region.

President Dioncounda Traore highlighted that Mali's contribution to the enhancement of peacebuilding was to share Mali's experience in dealing with the various crises that have afflicted his country. He talked about the importance of building disciplined and well equipped armies to protect institutions and deal with the multinational threats; regional cooperation, good governance, mechanism for dialogue and reconciliation and the need for job creation for the millions of unemployed youths across the continent. The President also called for a continental military capacity to promptly react to emerging crises.

Excellencies, much was said and I may omit some important contributions but there were some recurring themes in most of the interventions. On Development and Humanitarian Assistance, many delegations underscored that humanitarian assistance and socio-economic reconstruction act as the foundation for the consolidation of peace. Noteworthy was the importance of narrowing inequalities, the promotion of youth employment, and women empowerment.

On Governance and Institutional Capacity, the delegations talked about the need for prevention by putting in place mediation mechanism to resolve disputes peacefully and the strengthening of the judiciary systems. A special accent was put on capacity building in post-conflict situations to strengthen statutory institutions, better partnerships and frameworks to deal with the various challenges.

On African Initiative and Regional Efforts, there was a general agreement that AU and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) have demonstrated greater leadership in pushing for 'Africa led solutions to Africa's problems' and that it was important for the international community to continue to support African efforts. Reference was made, in this context, to the AU PCRD policy and to the recently launched African Solidarity Initiative which are build on collective self-reliance.

The importance of making Africa a relevant actor in global governance was also highlighted in particular by advocating for the reform of the United Nations Security Council so that Africa is better represented and its voice heard.

The need for regional organizations to develop their security architecture was mentioned and as was highlighted the importance of ensuring coherence between the continent and the RECS and the RECs and national governments.

The participants stressed the pressing need to mobilize financial resources for continental and regional bodies to strengthen African capacities to deal with conflicts. It was also underscored that in order to sustain peace it was important to enhance regional integration by focusing on building infrastructure, job creation and food security. The fight against terrorism and transnational organized crime was also described as one of Africa's priorities given the heavy impact of these phenomena on the human security landscape of Africa.

Insisting on peacebuilding was strongly recommended as a vehicle for promoting both peace and growth. The nexus between peacebuilding and development was also put in perspective as calling for a continuum which has the potential to help in preventing a relapse of conflict while addressing the root causes of conflict situations. The participants generally underlined the need for strong and effective strategic coordination among the so many actors that contribute to peacebuilding at all levels. They have also stressed the centrality and value of the human life in all endeavours in this context and noted that the relevance of the goals of human security was key for Africa's stability and development.

The interactions between conflict prevention and peacebuilding were addressed as was the appropriateness of more resource to be mobilized from

all sources. Local, national and continental ownership was considered key to the success of peacebuilding efforts.

Finally, the many delegations welcomed Japan's commitment for partnering with Africa and agreed that the TICAD forum could help in formulating a joint advocacy to sustain peacebuilding processes, including in support for an inclusive national dialogue, implementation of difficult peace agreements, help also to build and strengthen trust among parties and ensure a wider regional commitment to sustain peace in a given country emerging from conflict in Africa, as well as addressing peace and security challenges from a regional perspective in the Sahel-Sahara, the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa.

I thank you for your attention.