
**CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS
DECLARATION ON THE 6TH TOKYO
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT(TICAD VI)**

'People's Voices to the 2016 TICAD VI'

BANJUL, THE GAMBIA

14TH JUNE 2016



Civic Commission of Africa





PREAMBLE

WE, the Civil Society following the TICAD process under the auspices of the Civic Commission for Africa and the Japanese Citizens Network for TICAD held consultations with various non-state actors across Africa and Japan including Nairobi from 9th – 10th June, 2016, Banjul from 13th – 14th June, 2016 and Tokyo from 8th – 9th June, 2016

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of TICAD as a multilateral partnership that seeks to further Africa's development

RECOGNIZING the efforts and contributions to accelerate economic and social development through partnership between the governments of Africa and Japan

REALIZING the imperative of a sustained and coordinated approach and ownership of the Non-State Actors especially civil society organizations to engage and ensure effective implementation and monitoring of TICAD VI

NOTING the importance and prominent role that Non- State Actors especially civil society always and historically play, the critical role of creating linkages, mobilizing citizen participation and community voices, providing resources and services hence shaping Africa's development from the local, national, regional and at global levels,

RECOGNIZING that TICAD VI should be an inclusive process where development should be people centered, people driven and unleashes the full potential of African Women, Persons with Disabilities, Youth and other CSO's who play a key role in ensuring accountability and eradication of poverty, leaving no one behind in Africa within the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

APPRECIATING the Kenyan Government for their support towards the engagement of Non-State Actors in the TICAD process and also acknowledging their important role in the Process. We further appreciate the Japan Government for the third replenishment to the global fund

CONCERNED that though the TICAD process is meant to be a consultative process, civil society is not facilitated to play their critical role as a partner in planning, implementation and monitoring commitments at country level through accessing of resources and capacity development,

FURTHER CONCERNED that lack of commitment by developed countries to reach the 0.7% ODA target and noting that the current financing for development relies on private sector and domestic resources of the developing countries and as a result insufficient investment for poverty eradication in African countries,

FURTHER NOTING the role given to Non -State actors during the Senior Official Meeting (SOM) in Djibouti, we call for the recognition, provision of resources and institutionalization of non-state actors as an integral part within the TICAD VI process

URGE TICAD to play a central role in harnessing demographic dividend that would result from investing in African young people, recognizing their role in development and placing their aspirations at the centre of development.

URGE TICAD to promote full and active engagement of diverse civil society and non-state actors, to develop policies of TICAD, implementation of projects and programs under TICAD, and follow-up and review the progress of TICAD action plans.

COMMIT to promote sensitization and monitor the implementation of the TICAD VI process at community, national, Sub-regional and regional levels

WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS;



PILLAR 1: INDUSTRIALIZATION

TICAD VI should work within the framework of the African Union Industrialization Policy and the Regional Economic Communities (REC's) initiatives on innovation, intellectual property rights and low carbon development pathway. This should be geared towards ensuring that land tenure policies do not disenfranchise local communities in the journey of industrialization, channeling the right investments to support value addition and create and enhance industries.

The African Governments should ensure the creation of an all-inclusive infrastructure development framework that ensures Africa's private sector and African Civil Society organisations are involved during project conceptualisation, implementation and monitoring stages for purposes of skills transfer and ownership.

TICAD VI should ensure an Africa-driven well thought out strategy on technology transfer that addresses Africa's development needs targeting especially the youth, women and other vulnerable groups at community level. And TICAD VI should come up with a formalised structure to engage both Africa and Japanese Civil Society, ensuring that it is capacitated through funding of 1% of the total Nairobi Declaration Budget.

PILLAR 2: HEALTH

Recognising that universal access to comprehensive healthcare as basic human rights is critical in ensuring well-being of individuals to create impact on socio-economic development of African nations. We call on African Governments to increase domestic resource mobilisation starting with the implementation of the Abuja Declaration among other declarations which require 15% of the national budgets to health for sustainability of health outcomes. African and Japan Governments should take advantage of the TICAD process to develop equitable health and community systems to end HIV, TB and malaria by 2030, according to UNAIDS and WHO.

The Japanese government should ensure that its commitment to the Global Fund for HIV, TB and Malaria (GFATM) and other health related institutions are fully met. We urge Japanese government to expand its investment in Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Africa and provide technical assistance to develop financial mechanism to ensure realisation of UHC at national level.

TICAD VI should scale up the capacity of African countries to collect gender and age disaggregated data, research on communicable and non-communicable diseases, skills and technology transfer, ensure appropriate Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights Systems (TRIPS) flexibilities for the improvement of community and health systems. TICAD should facilitate civil society to play accountability role in strengthening the implementation of existing policies and programmes

PILLAR 3: WATER & SANITATION

Access to safe and clean water is a paramount human right. TICAD should support Non-State actors' efforts in building infrastructure, use of technology to identify and facilitate access to safe and clean water, public education and awareness on water management, mapping of water resources and advocacy on existing climate change and environmental policies.

We urge the Japanese government to support programmes and policies that are aimed at ensuring universal access to safe water and sanitation especially primary healthcare facilities and educational institutions in rural and urban areas.

PILLAR 4: CLIMATE CHANGE

The growing impacts of climate change continues to pose considerable risks to Africa's development agenda and eroding the meagre development gains made over several decades. Unless urgent local action is taken and international support especially from developed countries



like Japan received, Africa's ability to achieve the SDGs and meeting its commitment in the Paris Agreement will be greatly hampered. The Paris Climate Change Agreement adopted by 195 countries in December 2015 in Paris presents an opportunity for African countries to partner with Japan under TICAD process especially in the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC's), National Climate Change Response policies, strategies, plans and Programmes in ensuring Adaptation and Mitigation initiatives are jointly implemented towards a transition to low-emissions and climate resilient development in the context of the Agenda 2030 and Africa's Agenda 2063.

TICAD VI should play a catalytic role laying a foundation for the provision of Means of Implementation for the Paris Agreement for Africa. These include climate finance, capacity building and technology development and transfer targeting local communities which are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

TICAD should collaborate with other development partners and civil society organizations to enhance climate financing through the provided mechanisms under the UNFCCC including the Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility (GEF) among others. As the African civil society we see the Paris Agreement is a key milestone in addressing climate change BUT unless there is serious commitment especially from developed countries the agreement will be a failure; therefore the TICAD process should show government's commitment and good will in the implementation of the Paris Agreement domestically and through international solidarity and support especially to developing countries in Africa.

The shift to low carbon development pathway especially in the energy and agricultural sector should not lead to illegal land grabbing and displacement of African communities in the name of addressing climate change. TICAD VI should ensure the shift does not negatively deprive the rights of local communities with regard to land ownership and lead to unlawful displacements of people.

PILLAR 5: WOMEN, YOUTH AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

Women and Youth form more than half of Africa's population. We therefore recommend that TICAD VI should; invest in agro business initiatives to make agriculture attractive to women and youths in order to attain food security; promote innovations and technology transfer and safeguard, patent intellectual rights of African indigenous knowledge and technology that support youth and women entrepreneurship; Promote access to social services including education and health for youth, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups; Strengthen the economic empowerment of women, youth and persons with disabilities and the provision of capital to enable them venture into business and create market opportunities; Support effective systems, structures and institutional arrangements to improve the social and economic status of women, youth and persons with disabilities.

PILLAR 6: SOCIAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM

Social Security is a key catalyst for human prosperity and for creating an enabling environment that attracts foreign direct investments. TICAD VI should support the fight against marginalization, exclusion, and youth unemployment as key causes of youth radicalization. Civil society can play a key role in combatting violent extremism and therefore TICAD VI should invest in civil society in the implementation of key programmes including; African peer review mechanism on corruption and governance, educational reforms especially civic education; awareness raising and sensitization; promoting sports music, art and culture for the youth; Peace building programmes; strengthening local actors including media and encourage citizen's initiatives for counter-extremism; promoting dialogue among the state and non-state actors on pertinent security issues; promoting democracy and good governance. The TICAD process should strongly condemn external interference by developed countries in fragile states in the form of weapon trade and natural resource looting. To foster Africa's full potential of social, political and economic growth.

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