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Consolidated Summary

Updating Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019

1. Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 and its update

The Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019, which accompanies the Yokohama Declaration 2019 adopted at TICAD 7, enumerates a series of actions for implementation by TICAD actors to promote the focus areas of the three main pillars of the 2019 Yokohama Declaration.

PILLAR I: Accelerating economic transformation and improving the business environment

through innovation and private sector engagement.

PILLAR II: Deepening sustainable and resilient society.

PILLAR III: Strengthening peace and stability.

For each of these pillars, the Declaration commends achievements, highlights outstanding issues and promotes continued collaboration and actions to advance progress.

The Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 is an evolving document which was designed to reflect the updates on the progress made since TICAD7 by TICAD actors. Following the May 2021 launch of 'TICAD Monitor' - a new online platform managed by UNDP - actors were invited to electronically submit the Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 implementation progress status. TICAD actors were invited to provide updates vis à vis –D) Initiatives/Measures undertaken toward the implementation of the Plan of actions; E) Expected Outcomes; F) Results/State of Progress. Submissions were received on a platform managed by UNDP.

2. Highlights from the Update Exercise

Since the launch of 'TICAD Monitor', TICAD co-organizers have actively reached out to TICAD partners. Concerning the submissions, 240 submissions were made on the Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019.

Highlight 1: Pillar I Accelerating economic transformation and improving business environment through innovation and private sector engagement.

Innovative efforts to accelerate economic transformation included diverse trainings in agriculture, blue economy, macro-economic stability, intellectual property, promotion of gender sensitive value chain, entrepreneurship, especially for SMEs, women and youth entrepreneurs, support for informal sectors, micro-finance, and job creation/diversification. Some efforts further raised awareness on digital inclusion. TICAD actors welcomed the start of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and its potential for deepening regional integration and expanding markets. Many contributed to policymaking and advocacy for the implementation, industrialization, the creation of regional harmonized standards, capacity building for enhancing trade and investment, enhanced production capacity for farmers, quality infrastructure, including

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economic corridors, trade facilitation, revenue collection and promotion of sustainable energy. Joint projects, partnerships as well as South-South and triangular cooperation were actively utilized to ensure greater impact.

Highlight 2: Pillar II Deepening sustainable and resilient society

Focused efforts were reported through the provision of quality education and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), education skills for science, technology and innovation (STI), and vocational training for youth and women. Responding to COVID-19, TICAD actors reaffirmed the significance of expanding universal health coverage (UHC) in Africa to enhance preparedness for response to public health threats and emergency response (vaccine purchase and distribution) and improvement in nutrition. Furthermore, accelerated actions, including through raising global awareness, were undertaken to increase climate resilience and disaster risk reduction and waste management. This includes different data analytics and assessments (climate finance, budgeting, COVID-19 impact assessments) that were undertaken in partnership with academia, governments, and regional organizations to support recovery efforts.

Highlight 3: Pillar III Strengthening peace and stability

TICAD actors acknowledged the importance of empowering individuals to address the root causes of conflict, which would contribute to strengthening peace and stability, development and advance human security across the continent. Efforts were made to raise awareness and mobilize support on the implementation of the AU 'Silencing the Guns' initiative, to promote initiatives under the New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA), as well as to strengthen the humanitarian-development-peace-security nexus. Many reported on support for food assistance, refugee resettlement, community-based recovery and resilience building activities for refugees, returnees and IDPs via investments in education and training. Furthermore, investments in economies have been made with a particular focus on displaced and host communities to expand employment and entrepreneurship services and in critical investments in infrastructure development to help eliminate poverty and dependence. Capacity building for governmental officials as well as in regional and international organizations continue. These efforts have resulted in an increase in dialogue, knowledge sharing and cooperation to address a range of security issues including organized crime and terrorism in cross-border regions.

3. Conclusion

The action plan brought together the contributions of the TICAD co-organizers to the development priorities of Africa. For the first time in the history of TICAD since 1993, co-organizers reached an important milestone toward the establishment of a functional TICAD monitoring and reporting mechanism. As an open and accessible online platform, the 'TICAD Monitor' platform (www.ticad-monitor.org) serves as an important milestone towards a better functioning monitoring and reporting mechanism and enables TICAD partners to effectively report progress.

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From 10 May to 15 August, the online platform welcomed the voluntary participation of various partners and reaffirmed the commitment and active contribution to the YPA. On 15 July, the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) discussed the progress made in implementing the initiatives by TICAD partners. Participants at the JMC noted the effectiveness of the TICAD Monitor and expressed a commitment to enhance collaboration.

Based on the submitted report of the TICAD Monitor, TICAD co-organizers recognized steady achievements made toward implementation of the Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019. The report underscores the importance of peace and security, connectivity, South-South collaboration, innovation, digital and green transition towards *Building Back Better* in response to COVID-19, while promoting Africa's regional trade and investment for accelerated economic transformation and resilient society. In terms of focus, around 45% of the reported results and progress were in Pillar 1 (Accelerating economic transformation and improving the business environment through innovation and private sector engagement,) 39% in Pillar II (Deepening sustainable and resilient society), and 16% in Pillar III (Strengthening peace and stability). The areas with the greatest number of reported results and progress were in the following areas: promotion of economic diversification, industrialization and competitiveness (20%), enhancing resilience against natural disasters and climate change (17%), private sector development (13%), and enhancing universal health coverage.(12%).

Ahead of the TICAD 8 to be held in Tunisia, the TICAD Monitor platform will be re-opened to welcome new submissions from TICAD partners.

Lastly, it is critical to note that under the principles of African ownership and international partnership, the Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 acknowledged the rich participation of diverse TICAD partners, including the private sector in Africa and Japan. Many initiatives have been carried out and contributed to the implementation of Africa's development priorities. As an open and multilateral forum, TICAD will continuously support African ownership and contribute to building partnerships with multiple actors involved in African development.