Overview of the Basic Principles of the Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative

- Africa has achieved high economic growth against the backdrop of abundant natural resources and rapidly growing population, and is attracting attention and expectations as a potential market, but the following issues exist.
  - Basic infrastructure necessary for fostering industries in the healthcare sector is underdeveloped, such as electricity and water supply, ports and roads.
  - It is necessary to improve the social environment by enhancing basic knowledge about public health and sanitation and agriculture sectors, ensuring actual practices and further promoting them as a package.
  - Challenges still exist that should be addressed urgently, such as infectious diseases and malnutrition.
- Japan has been addressing development issues in Africa through the TICAD process, and at TICAD VI, Japan launched health initiatives, including the promotion of UHC. In order to seek promotion of UHC in Africa more proactively based on the idea of human security, and make more concrete contributions in response to the issues mentioned above, Japan set forth the Basic Principles of the Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative.

- Japan aims for the realization of a broad-based “Mt. Fuji-Shaped Healthcare” by promoting self-sustaining industries in the fields of “medical services/long-term care,” “healthcare services” and “services supporting healthy life.”
- To address the issues unique to Africa mentioned above, the Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative seeks to develop a virtuous cycle of creating and fostering private-sector businesses by efforts by the public sector and the invigoration of the private sector supporting the public sector. By pushing ahead with such support by the public sector and self-sustaining industrial activities by the private sector as two inseparable goals, the Initiative will improve healthcare in the countries concerned and realize economic growth together with reinvigoration of private-sector corporate activities.
- In order to make private-sector projects successful, the Initiative expects cooperative efforts with well-motivated NGOs.
① Develop intergovernmental MOCs with prioritized countries for the promotion of UHC under TICAD VI and countries that have the prospects for promotion of highly sustainable projects.
② Establish the Healthcare Working Group under the Japan Business Council for Africa as the place for information sharing and cooperation between Japanese private business operators and medical service providers, etc.
③ As specific support schemes, consider utilization of the Healthcare Working Group support activities and demonstration projects, utilization of existing systems like ODA, government-affiliated funds and individual schemes by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, and the Ministry of the Environment, etc., and active utilization and expansion of support measures for the business’ overseas expansion by JICA, JETRO and NEXI, etc.
④ Organize model projects that build momentum for the creation of industries necessary for the realization of healthcare in regions and promotion of private projects through the improvement of the environment and support schemes through the preparation of intergovernmental MOCs.

Activities in Africa

1. Development of the framework for private project promotion under governmental MOCs
2. Creation of places for info sharing and cooperation between private business operators and medical service providers, etc.
3. Government’s development of support scheme menu (matching, initial costs, and risk reduction, etc.)
4. Support for the running of Healthcare Working Group (Project organization missions by members, etc.)

Activities within Japan

- Japan Business Council for Africa (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Keidanren, Keizai Doyukai)
- Task Force for Global Reach of Japanese Medical Technology and Services
- Headquarters for Healthcare Policy
- Relevant public sectors (World Bank, United Nations, JICA, JETRO, government-affiliated financial institutions, etc.)
- Other WGs (tbc) by theme
Provision of basic medical services, including medical examinations by travelling clinics, and with this as the linchpin, development of groups of various projects related to the provision of advanced medical services, development of research environment and prevention of diseases (healthy diet, safety and development of hygienic environment, etc.)

**An Image of Model Project**

— Improvement of access to medical services in the region and development of the comprehensive community environment that makes healthy life possible —

**Private companies (projects) × NGOs (market creation)**

Medical services that serve as the foundation

- Urban medical center, etc. (Base of medical checkups by traveling doctors)
- Regional medical center
- Regional health center

**NGOs (market creation) × Private companies (projects)**

- Partnership with regional agriculture (Securing of food)
- Training of community health workers (Personnel to guide food and nutrition education)
- Improvement of food hygiene environment (standards, cold storage system, food packaging, etc.)
- Water supply by water purification devices
- Manufacturing/sale of soap
- Production technique enhancement/improved nutrition in farming villages
- Water supply by handy purification systems
- Manufacturing/sale of soap
- Hand washing with alcohol disinfectants