TICAD 8 Official Side Event

Toward Solving Health Challenges in Africa

– An approach through AfHWIN and Global Health Strategy

August 23rd (Tue), 2022

Event Proceedings

Office of Healthcare Policy, Cabinet Secretariat of Japan

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Programme

Part 1 : High-Level Meeting	Facilitator : **KUNII Osamu** (CEO, Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund)
Part 1 Program Overview	
09:00~09:35 (UTC) 18:00~18:35 (JST))	**TAKAICHI Sanae** (Minister of State for Healthcare Policy of Japan) **Ali MRABET** (Minister of Health of Tunisia) **Kwaku Agyeman-Manu** (Minister of Health of Republic of Ghana) **Susan Nyamoita Mochache** (C.B.S., Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health in Kenya) **KARUBE Jun** (Chair of Committee on Sub-Saharan Africa, Keidanren)
Break (25 minutes)	
Part 2 : AfHWIN Seminar Introduction of Initiatives to Solving Health Issue in Africa	
Part 2 Program Overview	
10:00~10:05 (UTC) (19:00~19:05 (JST))	**Opening Remarks** NISHIMURA Hidetaka (Deputy Director-General, Cabinet Secretariat, Japan)
10:05~10:10 (UTC) (19:05~19:10 (JST))	**Remarks from African Delegation** Alassane MBENGUE (Secretary-General, Ministry of Health and Social Action in Senegal)
10:10~11:50 (UTC) (19:10~20:50 (JST))	**Theme 1: Contributions to Healthcare Infrastructure & Public Health** Introduction of specific initiatives GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL SARAYA Co., Ltd. FUJIFILM Corporation Q&A session Messages from African stakeholders Amad DIOUF (Director of Infrastructures Equipments and Maintain, Ministry of Health and Social Action in Senegal) Issa Makumbi (Director of Public Health Emergency Operation Center, Ministry of Health in Uganda) Message to Africa TANAKA Kazushige (Deputy Director-General , Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan) **Theme 2: Contributions to Maternal and Child Health & Nutrition** Introduction of specific initiatives The Ajinomoto Foundation, NEC Corporation, Sysmex Corporation Melody International Ltd. SOIK Corporation., Ltd. Q&A session Messages from African stakeholders Amadou DOUCOURE (Director of Maternal and Child Health, Ministry of Health and Social Action in Senegal) Barbara Clemens (Representative and Country Director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Ghana) Grace R. Moshi (Assistant Director – Nutrition Services Section, Ministry of Health in Tanzania) Message to Africa KATO Ryuichi (Vice-President of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA))
11:50~11:55 (UTC) (20:50~20:55 (JST))	**Closing Remarks** OTSUBO Hiroko (Assistant Minister, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan)

Part 1: High-Level Meeting

TAKAICHI Sanae (Minister of State for Healthcare Policy, Japan)

Her Excellency Ms. Takaichi Sanae, Minister of State for Healthcare Policy of Japan opened the session by addressing how the health sector has consistently been positioned as an important theme for TICAD over the years in order to realize human security, promote universal health coverage (UHC), and develop sustainable and robust societies. Minister Takaichi also touched upon how Japan, as a friend of Africa, has contributed over the years such as through technical cooperation, human resources development, providing medical supplies, and funding to international organizations. Under the "Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative (AfHWIN)" launced at TICAD7, Japan has signed memoranda of bilateral cooperation with six African countries and promoted tangible projects, such as improving nutrition and hygiene as well as training personnel, in three target areas: development of professional human resources, provision of services and products that support healthier life, and creation of social and industrial infrastructure. Minister Takaichi reported that COVID-19 pandemic reaffirmed the importance of global health as essential basis for human security, and against this backdrop Japan formulated its new Global Health Strategy in May this year, aiming to strengthen prevention, preparedness, and responses to public health crises as well as to achieve more resilient, more equitable and more sustainable UHC, and in order to achieve its goals, Japan intends to contribute to international organizations and public-private partnership funds, promote bilateral cooperation, and strengthen partnerships with civil society and other diverse stakeholders. Minister Takaichi stated that based on AfHWIN and the Global Health Strategy, Japan continues to contribute to achieving UHC and to further strengthen its relationship with Africa.

Ali MRABET (Minister of Health, Republic of Tunisia)

His Excellency Ali Mrabet, Minister of Health, Republic of Tunisia, explained how the health sector has consistently been a crucial component of public policy for Tunisia and a cornerstone for human and social development. Dr. Mrabet also spoke about how this event was an excellent opportunity to discuss cooperation between Japan and Africa and promotion of public-private partnerships. Dr. Mrabet reported that Tunisia, which already provides quality healthcare through public-private partnerships, is formulating an action plan for 2030 that aims to ensure resilient capacities to handle potential future health crises and build more equitable and inclusive healthcare systems. Remarking that digitalizing the healthcare sector is an issue that the government cannot sidestep, Dr. Mrabet expressed hope for closer and more targeted cooperation between Japan and the African continent with a focus on reforming

the healthcare system so that it benefits all, achieving health justice, and improving healthcare capacity and quality. Dr. Mrabet also spoke about the introduction of balloon catheter technology with support from JICA, surgical simulations, organ and tissue transplants, and telemedicine between local labs, as cases of cooperation activities. He reported that a summit on investment in the health sector will be held in 2023 in Tunisia with the aim of bringing together stakeholders from the public and private sector and funders in the public health sector as part of triangular cooperation. Dr. Mrabet closed his remarks with his hope that the meeting would result in fruitful discussions in order to build win-win partnerships.

Kwaku Agyeman-Manu (Minister of Health, Republic of Ghana)

His Excellency Mr. Kwaku Agyeman-Manu, Minister of Health, Republic of Ghana opened his remarks with an expression of appreciation to Japan for its many years of contributions to the healthcare sector in Ghana, and noted how important it is to expand UHC with the goal of providing timely access to and quality healthcare services for all the people in Ghana, as well as providing an appropriate level of essential care and health services. Minister Agyeman-Manu spoke about PCR testing at the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research and KOKO Plus, a supplement to improve maternal and child health and nutrition, developed through a public-private partnership program between Ajinomoto Foundation, Sysmex Corporation and NEC Corporation, stressing that strategic collaboration with new partners can improve wellness in Africa. He also stated that the challenge for Ghana lies in building a resilient health system, and that the government is working on building capacity in the healthcare sector with the launch of a health security policy, so that appropriate preventive measures can be taken for potential health hazards and crises in the future. The country is also considering collaboration and support in the areas of vaccine production and development and has indicated their wish to position collaborative activities as part of medical tourism by expanding investments and partnerships in healthcare. In closing, Minister Agyeman-Manu expressed his expectation for even more innovation and partnerships with Japanese companies to achieve even better health outcomes.

Susan Nyamoita Mochache (C.B.S., Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health, Republic of Kenya)

Ms. Susan Mochache, Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Republic of Kenya, spoke about how the Ministry has started to invest in a number of centers of excellence utilizing knowledge and technology from Japan, as well as in cancer and mental health treatment facilities through the National Hospital Insurance Fund. She referred to an example of a project on the establishment of five regional cancer screening clinics in five counties supported by the Government of Japan and

how the country is working to build resilience in responding to public health crises in East Africa through the establishment of a Japanese-Kenyan academic research institute. Ms. Mochache also stressed priorities for Kenya in its universal health coverage strategy, including eliminating malaria, providing the primary care system and establishing community-based health networks in Africa. She noted that COVID-19 pandemic served as an opportunity to reaffirm the importance of strong partnerships and collaboration, as well as the importance of building capacity for producing vaccines, and storing and distributing pharmaceuticals in Kenya. The Kenyan government is setting up the Kenya BioVax Institute and is pushing forward to improve access to medicine in order to position Kenya as a hub for the production of pharmaceuticals. Ms. Mochache concluded her remarks with emphasis on the Ministry of Health's efforts for prevention, early detection and management of the double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases, as well as for improvement of reproductive health and maternal/child health to reduce mortality and morbidity.

KARUBE Jun (Chair, Committee on Sub-Saharan Africa, Keidanren)

Mr. Karube Jun, Chair of the Committee on Sub-Saharan Africa, Keidanren spoke about efforts to address healthcare issues in Africa with the development of three types of infrastructure: hard infrastructure (roads, ports, electricity, etc.), soft infrastructure (development and improvement of legal systems), and human infrastructure (development of human resources). Mr. Karube cited some examples of improvements, including the development of baby food using soy beans grown in Ghana, use of CT scans in Zambia that help with early diagnosis and 3D imaging to reduce surgery time, as well as the provision of sanitizers/disinfectants and hand washing practices in Uganda. He also remarked on Toyota Tsusho's activities in the healthcare sector with the provision of refrigerated transport vehicles for vaccines. Toyota Tsusho launched a test drive in October 2019 focusing on the last one-mile delivery, a critical issue for logistics, using refrigerated transport vehicles capable of delivering an equivalent of 144,000 vaccine doses. The vehicles also received qualification under the World Health Organization Performance, Quality and Safety standards in March 2021. Mr. Karube also commented on the efforts of the Global Health Business Leaders Coalition, a group of business leaders from different sectors who lobby Diet members about the need for increasing collaboration between the public and private sector and make policy proposals to the Prime Minister. In closing, Mr. Karube expressed his commitment to share the innovative technologies of Japanese companies with other countries around the world through public-private partnerships, with a focus on the overarching goal of creating a future where everyone has access to medical care whenever they need and people all over the world lead healthy lives.

TAKAICHI Sanae (Minister of State for Healthcare Policy, Japan)

In closing, Minister Takaichi summarized the discussions and stated that Japan has plenty more room for further cooperation to address various issues in the health sector in Africa and that Japan, with a good understanding of the situation and its needs, will continue to commit itself to providing support through specific public-private projects based on AfHWIN and to providing financial and human support in collaboration with international

organizations based on Global Health Strategy. Minister Takaichi thanked the honorable guests, the audience and those who cooperated to hold this webinar.

Part 2: AfHWIN Seminar

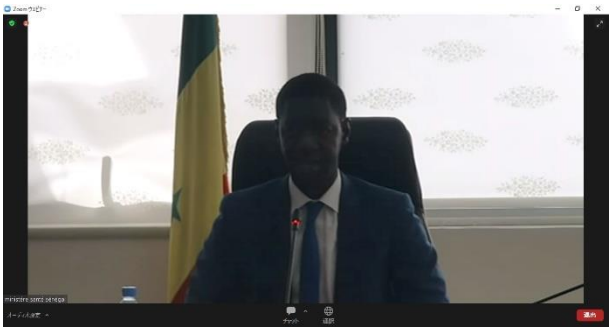
Opening Remarks

NISHIMURA Hidetaka (Deputy Director-General, Office of Healthcare Policy, Cabinet Secretariat, Japan)

In his opening remarks, Mr. Nishimura Hidetaka, Deputy Director-General of the Office of Healthcare Policy, Cabinet Secretariat of Japan, spoke about Japan and Africa's long history of cooperation and highlighted the success of the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, established in Ghana in 1979, where it has been actively engaged in research on infectious diseases in Africa for over 40 years and is now recognized globally as a base for research on infectious disease measures. After acknowledging the successful outcomes and strong friendly relationships that are already in place as a result of the cooperative activities of professionals and companies that are working in the healthcare sector in Africa, he expressed his hope that this seminar would help participants gain a better understanding of the outstanding activities that are currently being carried out under AfHWIN, accelerate African initiative, and strengthen relation between Africa and Japan in healthcare sector.

Remarks from African Delegation

Alassane MBENGUE (Secretary-General, Ministry of Health and Social Action, Republic of Senegal)



Mr. Alassane Mbengue, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Health and Social Action in Senegal, expressed his appreciation to Japan for the activities being carried out in Africa through public-private partnerships and collaboration among private companies. He explained that the themes of this session (building healthcare infrastructure and responses to improving maternal and child health and nutrition) are pressing issues that hold great interest for the private sector in both Japan and Africa. Although a number of projects are already in progress in line with the AfHWIN initiative proposed at TICAD7, Mr. Mbengue discussed the necessity of continuing to rise to the challenge to find solutions to these issues and that he hopes the friendly and cooperative relationship between Japan and Africa can be made even stronger by sharing the wonderful expertise of Japanese companies. Mr. Mbengue expressed the intention to have an open mind for welcoming the involvement of partner companies and build systems that would allow Japan and Africa to draw out results together through the continual exchange of ideas.

Theme 1: Contributions to Healthcare Infrastructure and Public Health

Introduction on Specific Initiatives

GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL

A substantial amount of Japanese equipment (x-ray machines, endoscopes, variety of lab equipment) is used at Grand Forest Japan Hospital, established in Kenya in 2013, with the aim of providing quality, timely, and reasonably priced medical services. A rehabilitation facility was established in 2020, offering physical and occupational therapy with an advanced and patient-centered approach. Dr. Kenneth Otieno, Manager at Forest Japan Medical Center in Nairobi, referred to financial challenges and organizational and social constraints as barriers facing African countries in providing healthcare services, and recounted the problems with high out-of-pocket healthcare costs for patients, as well as disparities in access to healthcare. He also touched upon the fact that many facilities lack funds to purchase medical equipment and pharmaceuticals and the challenges they face, such as undeveloped logistics systems and a shortage of radiologists, which indicate the need for collaboration in local areas and research for healthcare professionals. An NGO called "Dream World Healthcare Programme" was launched in response to this situation to provide medical exams, health checkups, and laboratory testing, as well as education and training on medical care, healthcare and hygiene for people in Kenya who may not be able to afford to pay for their own medical expenses. Dr. Otieno also reiterated the importance of being unified and shared his thoughts on delivering the best healthcare for all people by bringing together stakeholders from diverse areas to learn from one another and work together to accomplish specific tasks.

Saraya Co., Ltd.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 16 million people die worldwide from healthcare-associated infections (HAI), a figure that is higher than the annual number of deaths from malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis altogether. In the face of this reality, Saraya started to manufacture alcohol hand sanitizers locally in Uganda in 2014 and provide educational services to encourage changes in behavior by training healthcare workers to improve their approach towards hygiene. These activities were supported by WHO and JICA and continued even during lockdown for COVID-19 as an essential part of social infrastructure. Three years of collaboration to educate the public about hand hygiene to reduce maternal mortality rates has improved hand hygiene compliance rates to 92%, with a significant reduction in the number of deaths from sepsis. Saraya has also been working on a way to treat tungiasis, which is caused by sand fleas burrowing into the epidermis. The company has developed a therapeutic lotion that is more effective than conventional medications and plans to manufacture it locally at their factory in Uganda. Saraya is currently conducting clinical trials and has

announced that it may be able to launch the product next year. Mr. Takeo Hojo from Saraya concluded by mentioning that although tungiasis has been included in the roadmap of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), priority measures have not been taken to treat and prevent this disease due to a lack of knowledge and interest. Saraya hopes to promote awareness, education and support activities on this disease through projects by Nagasaki University and JICA and grassroots activities by NGOs and NPOs.

Fujifilm Corporation

Fujifilm's contributions to healthcare began in 1936 with the production of X-ray film. Today, they have expanded business as a total healthcare company in the areas of prevention, diagnosis and treatment. Mr. Masataka Akiyama from Fujifilm Corporation reported on the company's efforts to achieve universal health coverage from the perspective of promoting women's health, building a culture to promote health checkups and screenings, and improving primary care. First, Mr. Akiyama introduced a project on training physicians that has been implemented in Kenya since 2020 using SonoSite, a portable and highly durable ultrasound imaging system. He explained that local physicians who have acquired the knowledge and skills on point-of-care technologies through this project are now voluntarily spreading that knowledge to younger physicians and helping to improve the standard of medical care, with a particular focus on health checkups for perinatal women. This was followed by an introduction to a health screening center that uses AI, called NURA, which was set up to detect health risks and lifestyle-related diseases in the early stages. NURA can return test results in just 120 minutes. Fujifilm's goal is to create a society where anyone can recognize and learn about health risk factors while there is time. Lastly, Mr. Akiyama introduced the FDR Xair, a portable X-ray device that helps with the early detection of tuberculosis. The unit is lightweight and can be powered by batteries or with solar power, which allows it to be used in areas where access to healthcare is limited, such as mountainous regions and remote islands. Fujifilm is successfully using FDR Xair in 24 countries around the world. Mr. Akiyama also pointed out that the lack of resources (equipment, personnel, power infrastructure, etc.) at primary care facilities in regions of Africa has resulted in overcrowding as patients flood the wards at central hospitals that should be providing more advanced medical care. He concluded with Fujifilm's hope to contribute to healthcare in Africa throughout the entire medical value chain by improving the functions of primary facilities that provide preventive screening and primary treatment with the introduction of products and services developed around X-ray imaging.

Q&A Session

GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL：

Q: You have mentioned barriers, but have you found opportunities to overcome challenges?

A: We asked various insurance companies for their cooperation because of the high out-of-pocket costs for patients who receive healthcare services.

Q: Are there premiums for prepaid insurance? What form of payment do people use?

A： For example, people with lower incomes can access unlimited healthcare services by paying a fixed fee of 300 to 500 yen per month. Moving up the scale allows them to receive more extensive services.
Q： What efforts are being made to improve accessibility?
A： Unfortunately, there is not much we can do as an organization in terms of accessibility.
Q： How do you train healthcare workers in remote areas in Kenya?
A： We are implementing exchange programs with Japan at related institutions in Kenya to identify gaps and allow workers learn content that can be applied in local settings.

Saraya Co., Ltd.

Q： Do you have plans to develop therapeutic treatments that are effective in preventing soil-transmitted diseases other than tungiasis?
A： Although we know that the active ingredient in the treatment for tungiasis is effective for scabies, we do not yet have data in hand that shows how effective it is for other diseases, so we will continue our research in this area.
Q： What kinds of awareness raising activities are you engaged in through public-private partnerships or among private companies to eradicate tungiasis?
A： We are making an effort to share information through our participation in international conferences. In Kenya, we are also working with local governments and NPOs on implementing awareness activities on diseases. However, since people in 88 countries are afflicted with this disease, we need to cooperate and collaborate with more partners, not only in Japan and Kenya.
Q： Working with local NGOs to cover other diseases can also prevent transmission before it occurs. It is also important to cooperate with local communities, and integrate and coordinate activities with related organizations in the insurance and healthcare industry.

Fujifilm Corporation

Q： Developing effective tools is one option, but distributing and selling those tools is another issue. What is your company's strategy for marketing, supply chains and local maintenance?
A： Fujifilm started selling X-ray film in 1936. Our supply chain and service network now stretch across the world and we have many local partners and distributors in Africa. We use these networks to access local hospitals and provide products and services.
Q： We must be able to share data and information and troubleshoot problems, but collaborating with other private companies also offers opportunities to use each other's channels. What steps are being taken in terms of connectivity, versatility and interoperability?
A： We recognize that each activity should contribute to promoting people's health and improving healthcare. For this reason, it is important that we continuously follow up and promote independent activities in local areas. We are looking to build up relationships among local healthcare professionals by helping them learn how to use equipment and training the next generation of physicians. IT will also be useful in sharing information among physicians, as well as for remote learning and troubleshooting.

Messages from African Officials

Amad Diouf (Director, Infrastructure, Equipment, Maintenance, Ministry of Health and Social Action, Republic of Senegal)

Mr. Amad Diouf, Director of Infrastructure, Equipment and Maintenance in the Ministry of Health and Social Action, Senegal, commented on the numerous innovative technologies that are directly related to solving the challenges African countries face. He said that the private sector has played a very significant role in addressing issues that not only apply to Senegal, but to all of the African continent, such as the purchase of medical device components, maintenance of equipment, and lack of technical training for medical professionals. Mr. Diouf noted that Senegal has formulated an investment plan for 2020 to 2024 and is developing a system that will help many residents access primary care. He also emphasized that the Ministry of Health and Social Action has a large interest in public-private partnerships in the healthcare sector, adding that the environment is conducive for private companies that have a number of innovative technologies.

Issa Makumbi (Director, Public Health Emergency Operations Center, Ministry of Health, Republic of Uganda)

Dr. Issa Makumbi, Director, Public Health Emergency Operations Center, Ministry of Health, Uganda, pointed out that health and health care are key components in AU Agenda 2063, requiring inclusive development. The challenges are still huge to achieving this goal include maternal and child health, infectious and non-communicable diseases. In addition, the climate change and extreme weather effects like, floods, droughts are increasing. Dr. Makumbi noted the existence of barriers stemming from Uganda's underdeveloped infrastructure and weak healthcare system, such as the inability to prevent diseases that should be preventable, and the fact that some diagnosis and treatment can only be performed outside of the country defines our deficiency. He added comments on expanding collaboration with the private sector to enhance diagnosis, prevention and treatment in order to develop a productive population to attain our development goals. This is mutually beneficial and re-enforcing.

Messages to Africa

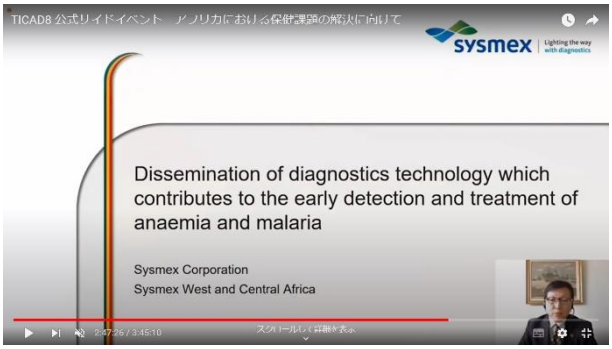
TANAKA Kazushige (Deputy Director-General, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry, Japan)

Mr. Tanaka Kazushige, Deputy Director-General, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan, reported that, in addition to the traditional problems of infectious diseases, maternal and child health and nutrition, there has been an increase in non-communicable diseases in Africa, and that Japan is working to improve the standards of medical care and create local markets in collaboration with local African companies. He also noted the accomplishments Rwanda has made in the field of maternal and child health by improving the standard of perinatal care, and that an event was held online last year, Product Demo Day, between Kenya and Ghana to promote additional collaboration through the introduction of Japanese medical equipment. The Japanese government also expressed its stance on continuing to help develop healthcare delivery systems in Africa and strengthen business partnerships.

Theme 2: Contributions to Maternal and Child Health & Nutrition

Ajinomoto Foundation, NEC Corporation, and Sysmex Corporation

The Ajinomoto Foundation, NEC Corporation and Sysmex Corporation engaged in cross-industry collaboration to improve health issues such as malaria and anemia and to solve the problem of stunted growth caused by malnutrition. To start, the Ajinomoto Foundation explained that they build up supply chain with local partners as production and distribution of "KOKO Plus", a nutritional supplement in Ghana, as well as the development of educational tools to promote knowledge of nutrition and behavioral changes of mothers, where approximately 30% of 2-year-old children are afflicted by stunted growth. The collection of more accurate maternal and child information by local healthcare staff laid the groundwork for providing data-driven guidance on nutritional health to beneficiaries.



Next, Sysmex, an in-vitro diagnostic company providing products and services in more than 190 countries and regions around the world, featured the XN-31, an automated hematology analyzer that is being used to help with the early detection of malaria and anemia. XN-31 is a medical device that quantitatively measures the malaria-infected red blood cells in approximately one minute, and can also simultaneously provide CBC (Complete Blood Count) parameters, such as number of red blood cell and hemoglobin. Sysmex also offers training for laboratory technicians on basic operation and maintenance, as well as scientific training for physicians, to support expanding high-quality testing that will lead to early diagnoses and treatments.

Lastly, NEC Corporation touched upon its ICT-based applications for health checkup and nutritional guidance to overcome the problems of disparities in nutritional conditions in children caused by the mothers' degree of understanding of nutritional education, variations in the level of health checkup and guidance offered by health center staffs, and inadequate health data. ICT is expected to help health center staffs visualize the results of health checkup, provide effective follow-up care, and improve their skills by standardizing the content of guidance. The three organizations reported that this cross-industry collaboration in the public and private sectors can approach effectively in changing the behaviors of users through identifying common challenges and gathering each organization's strengths and advanced technologies. They concluded with the hope that this project and AfHWIN will improve the health of more people with the involvement of more private companies and organizations among the governments of African countries and Japan.

Melody International Ltd.

According to WHO, about 2 million babies die in childbirth each year around the world. With its lack of obstetricians and hospitals and the low rate of mothers and children receiving medical checkups, the African region has the highest maternal and infant mortality rates in pregnancy and childbirth in the world. A company with a mission to achieve safe and secure environments for pregnancy and childbirth, Melody International introduced “Melody i", a platform used to facilitate communication between physicians and pregnant women, as well as its “iCTG” mobile fetal monitoring device that allows physicians to wirelessly monitor maternal and child health in real-time. iCTG is equipped with meters to monitor fetal heart rate and uterine contractions, so when risk factors or abnormalities are detected, risk can be addressed early through remote diagnoses online. In an emergency, a physician can make a referral to a larger hospital easily and prevent unexpected situations from occurring. iCTG is already in use in more than 250 hospitals in 12 countries, including Chiang Mai in Thailand and the Kingdom of Bhutan. It was also listed in the WHO’s compendium of innovative health technologies for low resource setting. Ms. Ogata Yuko, CEO of Melody International, also stated that, with a grant from the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), they are working with Professor Shinpuku Yoko of Hiroshima University and Castalia Co., Ltd. to provide fetal monitoring devices, share the knowledge of midwives, and expand perinatal health checkups in Tanzania by equipping health screening vehicles with SNS-based information sharing functions.

SOIK Corporation

SOIK Corporation launched business activities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which has a high maternal mortality rate. SOIK Corporation’s CEO, Mr. Furuta Kuniyuki, pointed out three challenges preventing solutions for this problem, despite various innovative devices and solutions already in place in Africa: integrating innovative devices into routine operations, attractiveness to pregnant women and people, and financial sustainability. SPAQ is a platform that allows all obstetric screenings to be completed using a smartphone. The smartphone app is used as a platform in combination with portable medical equipment, such as an echography, fetal monitors and biochemical analyzers. By navigating the health screening process on the app, healthcare workers can check routine items without omission and review past records. Data is also compatible with other digital medical devices, which allows healthcare workers to perform remote diagnoses. Mr. Furuta noted that it is important to make an effort to improve the service quality of non-medical aspects and to make them more attractive to pregnant women and people and raise Antenatal Consultation rates. The ability to perform outreach examinations in remote areas has led to increased profitability for medical facilities that have introduced SPAQ, which has a subscription payment

structure creating a financially stable business model. SOIK has signed a public-private partnership agreement with the Congolese Ministry of Public Health, as well as memorandums of cooperation with Toyota Tsusho and Osaka Metropolitan University for the joint development of innovative perinatal healthcare services combining mobility and digital health, and has plans to develop projects in Zambia, Malawi and Sudan. Mr. Furuta also expressed his hope to create history with Africa, making Africa a world-leading continent where patients can receive the most cost-effective services in the world.

Messages from African Officials

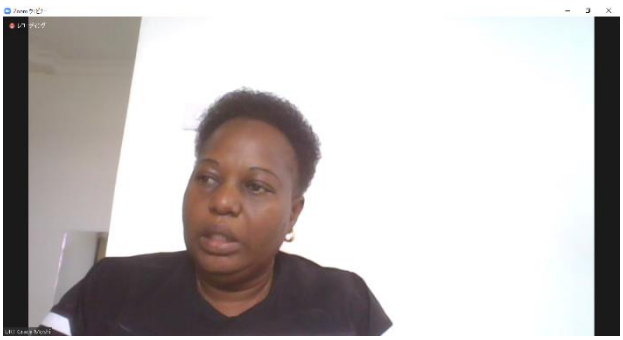
Amadou Doucouré (Physician and Director, Maternal Child Health, Ministry of Health and Social Action, Republic of Senegal)

Dr. Amadou Doucouré, Director, Maternal Child Health, Ministry of Health and Social Action, Senegal, commented that the maternal mortality rate has decreased by 40% over the past decade and infant mortality rates are also falling in Senegal, where numerous efforts have been made in improving maternal and child health and human resources training, but that achieving UHC requires funding, strategies, partnerships and innovation. Dr. Doucouré also stated that more people could be reached with the use of the products and services that have been referred to provide a continuous level of care. He also indicated that the Ministry of Health and Social Action will also promote digital health policies with the use of cell phones and digital technologies to eliminate regional disparities in the provision of care.

Barbara Clemens (Representative and Country Director, UN World Food Programme, Republic of Ghana)

Ms. Barbara Clemens, Representative and Country Director, UN WFP, Ghana, made reference to the public-private partnership in Ghana and expressed her appreciation to the Ajinomoto Foundation, Sysmex Corporation and NEC Corporation for the innovative projects on improving nutrition that have achieved both social and behavioral change and helped to improve maternal and child health. Ms. Clemens also stated that, in the midst of the sporadic breakouts of COVID-19 and the ongoing Russian-Ukrainian conflict, WEP is looking to build transformative relationships through strategic partnerships with the private sector to elicit changes in behavior in society. She concluded with the desire to continue working with the Government of Ghana in the areas of maternal and child health and improved nutrition with the aim of achieving the development of a sustainable society.

Grace Moshi (Assistant Director, Nutrition Services Section, Ministry of Health, United Republic of Tanzania)



Ms. Grace Moshi, Assistant Director, Nutrition Services Section, Ministry of Health, Tanzania, spoke about how the government is involved in improving nutritional education using ICT technologies and is taking a number of different sectoral approaches. Ms. Moshi also explained that activities are being scaled up by bringing together the government, development partners, the private sector and other diverse stakeholders. She reported that, in addition to technical support from Japan, a business network of about 90 local companies in Tanzania has been launched to implement programs to improve nutrition and provide education on health.

Messages to Africa

KATO Ryuichi (Vice President, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA))

Mr. Kato Ryuichi, Vice President of JICA, spoke about the focus on healthcare cooperation in Africa as an important area for JICA. Since 2019, JICA has worked in collaboration with private companies in Japan to solve local healthcare issues in Africa through cooperation in delivering online seminars for Japanese companies hosted by the Cabinet Office and the promotion of other projects in partnership with the private sector. Mr. Kato noted the success of public-private partnerships as seen from the examples presented by the companies today, and expressed JICA's stance on continued cooperation under the AfHWIN program promoted by the Japanese government, with the development of even more effective cooperation activities and adoption of innovative methods to overcome critical situations.

Closing Remarks

OTSUBO Hiroko (Assistant Minister, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan)

At the start of closing remarks, Dr. Otsubo Hiroko, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare, Japan, stated that the aim of TICAD8 is to realize UHC through sustainable and resilient societies based on strengthening long-term investment in human resources, and that these guidelines are consistent with the basic principles of AfHWIN that is being advocated by the Japanese government. Dr. Otsubo explained that the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is working closely with Japanese companies and institutions under AfHWIN to support healthcare needs in African

countries through the provision of Japanese medical technology and equipment, in addition to providing pharmaceuticals and medical services and sharing knowledge with countries in Africa. Dr. Otsubo concluded the closing remarks with an expression of hope to continue efforts to share Japanese technology, knowledge and experiences with the countries and people of Africa in order to find effective solutions to various healthcare issues that are in line with local conditions and situations.

Annex

Part 1: High-Level Meeting

Speakers

TAKAICHI Sanae

Minister of State for Healthcare Policy of Japan

Takaichi was born on March 7, 1961. She graduated from the Department of Business Administration, the Faculty of Business Administration, Kobe University, and from the Matsushita Institute of Government & Management, before becoming a Congressional Fellow in the U.S. Congress. She also worked as a professor in the Faculty of Economics, Kindai University (industrial policy, small and medium enterprises). Takaichi was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1993, and is currently serving her ninth term. Takaichi has served as: the State Secretary for International Trade and Industry; Senior Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (3 appointments); Minister of State for Special Missions (4 appointments); Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications (5 appointments, longest incumbency in history); Chairperson of the House of Representatives (HR) Committee on Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; Chairperson of the HR Committee on Rules and Administration; Chairperson of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Headquarters for Cybersecurity Measures (3 terms); Chairperson of the LDP Headquarters for Economic Security Measures; and Chairperson of the LDP Policy Research Council (3 terms).
Takaichi's recently published works include (in Japanese): Protect Your Livelihood from Cyberattacks! (PHP Institute, Inc.), My Plan for Strengthening the Japanese Economy for a Beautiful, Strong and Growing Nation (WAC inc.), and The Lies of Doves (coauthor, Sankei Shimbun Publications Inc.).

Ali MRABET

Minister of Health of Tunisia

Dr Ali Mrabet was born on October 28, 1963, he graduated from the Medical school of Tunis.
He held several management positions at the General Directorate of Military Health.
He took part in several UN missions, which earned him the medal of the United Nations (Blue Helmets) in 2003.
In July 2021, he led the mobile anti-Covid vaccination campaign in southern Tunisia.
On August 6, 2021, he was put in charge of managing the affairs of the Ministry of Health and then appointed Minister of Health on October 11, 2021.

Kwaku Agyeman-MANU

Minister of Health, Republic of Ghana

Kwaku Agyeman Manu is a product of the University of Ghana where he had his Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics and Statistics. He also attended the London School of Accountancy where he chartered as a management accountant. He served as Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Interior, Finance, Roads and Transport, Transport and Communication and also served as the Ag. Chief Executive of the National Health Insurance Authority. He is the Minister for Health for the Republic of Ghana and also the Board Chairman for the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). He has been elected as an alternate member of GAVI (Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation)

Susan Nyamoita Mochache

C.B.S., Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health in Kenya

Susan N. Mochache is the Principal Secretary (PS), Ministry of Health. Her key assignment presently, together with the leadership at the Ministry is delivering Universal Health Coverage (UHC), which is among the Big Four Agenda of the Government of Kenya. She has previously served in the same capacity in the State Department for Co-operatives, Ministry of Environment and Forestry and State Department for Social Protection.

KARUBE Jun

Chair of Committee on Sub-Saharan Africa, Keidanren

Karube Jun, born in 1953, joined Toyota Tsusho in 1976 on earning a degree in electrical engineering from Yokohama National University.

Karube became a member of the board of directors at Toyota Tsusho in 2004, the president and CEO in June 2011, and the chairman in 2018. He assumed his present position in 2022. He also serves as the Chair of Committee on Sub-Saharan Africa, Keidanren. Away from work, Karube enjoys reading and watching sports, especially basketball.

Facilitator (Part 1, Part 2)

KUNII Osamu

CEO, Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund

Dr. Osamu Kunii, MD, Ph.D., MPH, is currently serving as CEO and Executive Director of the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT), which promotes R&D of therapeutics, diagnostics and vaccines against infectious diseases such as neglected tropical diseases, tuberculosis and malaria. In the past 30 years he has been engaged in global health, especially infectious diseases control, humanitarian emergencies, and maternal and child health, through the Global Fund, UNICEF, academia, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other institutions.

He has lived and worked in various countries in all the continents, such as Brazil, India, Myanmar, Somalia and Switzerland, and love various activities such as Yoga, meditation, Karaoke, diving and mountaineering.

Theme 1: Contributions to Healthcare Infrastructure & Public Health

Companies and Medical Institutions

GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL

Kohshinkai Medical Corporation established a local subsidiary, GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL, in Kenya in 2013 to provide Japanese-style medical services to address issues such as traffic accidents and lifestyle-related diseases that are escalating in the face of robust economic growth, and in April 2016, opened a hub facility, Forest Japan Medical Centre, in Nairobi City. In 2013, GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL also established a local NGO, the DREAM WORLD HEALTHCARE PROGRAM. GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL also works with the Departments of Health of Nakuru and Kajiado Counties to provide mobile medical care in slums and medical checkups for schoolchildren, as well as medical checkups and other forms of support at a children's home in a slum in Kiambu County. GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL opened a rehabilitation center in a major Nairobi shopping mall in December 2020 where they offer medical care together with Kenyan healthcare professionals. In cooperation with local medical institutions, GRAND FOREST JAPAN HOSPITAL is helping to improve healthcare services in Kenya through the popularization of Japanese diagnostic treatment and rehabilitation medicine practices such as by introducing Japanese medical equipment, performing verifications on the effectiveness of Japanese rehabilitation practices, and providing training to staff at Kenyatta National Hospital, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, the University of Nairobi among other institutions.

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SARAYA Co., Ltd.

The "Wash A Million Hands!" project was launched in Uganda in 2010 as a collaboration between UNICEF and Japanese disinfectant manufacturer, SARAYA Co., Ltd.

This activity aims to improve children's health and sanitary conditions by promoting proper handwashing practices.

Observing that more deaths occur in Uganda from infections in hospitals than malaria or tuberculosis, SARAYA has also launched the "100% Hospital Hand Hygiene" project in Uganda alongside "Wash A Million Hands!".

SARAYA and JICA conducted demonstrations at two public district hospitals in Gombe and Entebbe (central Uganda) on alcohol-based hand sanitizers, achieving notable results in preventing nosocomial infections, including reports of a dramatic reduction in infections on maternity wards.

Local production and sales began in 2014 with the construction of a manufacturing facility for alcohol-based hand sanitizers in Uganda. SARAYA is helping find solutions to social challenges in East Africa by building sustainable social businesses.

SARAYA Co., Ltd.
E-mail address : info@global.saraya.com

Theme 1: Contributions to Healthcare Infrastructure & Public Health

FUJIFILM Corporation

JICA and FUJIFILM have partnered together to promote early diagnostic techniques using ultrasound equipment in a program called "Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS)" for physicians in Kenya, a country with one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world.

A sustainable, independent training system has been developed through a training program for physicians that includes POCUS seminars using high-quality ultrasound images taken with an ultrasound diagnostic imaging system, and remote training with doctors in Japan. Located in Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi, the POCUS Training Center, established and operated through a public-private partnership, helps people understand the importance and concepts behind "Point of Care (POC)", where tests are performed in front of the patient or at home so that decisions can be made on treatment strategies and procedures. Nine physicians from Kenya completed the training curriculum over a period of two years since February 2020, and each graduate is currently training future doctors in Kenya as trainers.

The aim of this program is to reduce maternal mortality rates through early diagnosis, identification and treatment of complications and high-risk diseases during pregnancy by improving the standard of care in Kenya.

FUJIFILM Corporation
Healthcare Division MICHIBA hirotaka
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Theme 2: Contributions to Maternal and Child Health & Nutrition

Companies and Medical Institutions

The Ajinomoto Foundation

The Ghana Nutrition Improvement Project was started by Ajinomoto Co., Inc. in 2009. In 2017, the Ajinomoto Foundation took over the project and has since helped to improve infant nutrition in Ghana by developing, manufacturing, and selling KOKO Plus®, a supplement containing amino acids that provides the nutrients lacking in "koko," a corn porridge that is used as a traditional baby food.

Based on this activity, as part of the Africa Health and Well-being Initiative being promoted by the Cabinet Secretariat's Office of Healthcare Policy, in 2021, a proposal was put forward in collaboration with Sysmex and NEC for a cross-industry co-creation concept to contribute to maternal and child health in Ghana by combining high-quality testing and ICT from Japan. In 2022, with the support of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), the proposal was realized as a project promoting public-private partnerships between Ghana and Japan. The aim is to build systems that contribute to the promotion of sustainable and stable economic growth while accelerating efforts for improving maternal and child nutrition.

The Ajinomoto Foundation
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Melody International Ltd.

Melody International has developed the world's first IoT fetal monitor, iCTG, a device that allows pregnant people to be constantly monitored anywhere, including in their homes. This medically certified device and the accompanying cloud-based platform, Melody i, gives physicians the means to check fetal heart rates and uterine contractions remotely and allows responses to be developed for a variety of needs, including the increase in high-risk pregnancies, declining number of obstetricians and gynecologists, and the lack of access to healthcare in remote areas and developing countries. With high numbers of babies dying at birth in regions in Africa, we hope to work together with national governments and medical institutions in different countries to solve these issues by connecting pregnant people in underserved areas with appropriate medical care.

The iCTG fetal monitor has been certified as a medical device in Japan, Kenya, Thailand and the Philippines. Included in the WHO's 2022 compendium of innovative health technologies for low resource settings, its effects are expected to be significant.

Melody International Ltd.
E-mail address : e-support@melodyi.net
English website: https://melodyi.net

SOIK Corporation., Ltd.

Why are innovative digital solutions developed by innovators around the world not in the hands of health centers in Africa?

SOIK has developed SPAQ, a digital obstetrics solution integrated with digital medical equipment from Japan. This smartphone app is used to help healthcare professionals navigate obstetric care processes and turns the use of innovative medical equipment into an easy and routine task.

More than 1,000 digital prenatal examinations were conducted in a demonstration project at seven facilities in Kwango Province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The number of prenatal examinations at each facility increased by an average of 74%, with a total of 79 abnormalities detected and 28 lives saved. Revenue increased by an average of 42%, reflected as an increase in the salaries of healthcare professionals in the field in some cases.

SPAQ will serve as a platform to expand digital innovation to healthcare facilities in Africa by dramatically improving profitability and ease of use by healthcare professionals.

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