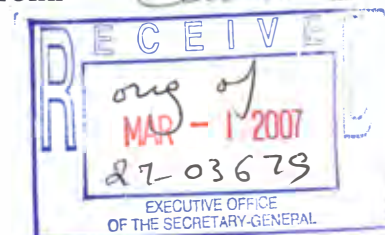


SC/07/050

PERMANENT MISSION OF JAPAN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

28 February 2007



Excellency,

I have the honor to write to you as a co-organizer of the Tokyo International conference on African Development (TICAD), jointly initiated in 1993 by Japan and GCA, with UNDP and the World Bank joining later as co-organizers. With your assistance, the Office of the Special Advisor on Africa (OSAA) has also been actively involved as a TICAD focal point.

As you know, we will be holding the TICAD Ministerial Conference on Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development, in Nairobi on 22 and 23 March 2007, and I would like to ask if you would kindly consent to provide a video message for the occasion. The Ministerial-level conference will be a great opportunity to discuss measures to promote energy access, improved environmental management in the context of growth and development efforts, poverty reduction, and achievement of MDGs. A video message would certainly send a strong and clear message to the international community about the importance of these issues and how they are linked, and it would also demonstrate the commitment of the UN to achieving progress in this area.

The message should be approximately five minutes long. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I have enclosed the concept paper and tentative schedule for your reference.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Kenzo Oshima'.

Kenzo Oshima
Permanent Representative of Japan
to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York





TICAD Conference on Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development (Concept Paper)

February, 2007
MOFA, Japan

1. Background

A number of African countries face a vicious circle of environmental degradation, lack of energy access, and poverty aggravation. It is vital for Africa and the donor community together to develop a better understanding of the importance and urgency of issues of energy and environment for sustainable development, and focus on solutions that enable accelerated growth and improved quality of life

2. Dates and Venue

March 22-23, 2007, Nairobi, Kenya

3. Significance of the Conference

Africa today faces a number of complex and somewhat inter-related challenges related to energy and environment. This Conference tries to make an effort at addressing several challenges -including energy access, and management of water resources and climate variability, by promoting a better understanding of the opportunities and challenges around these issues and a solution-oriented discussion to advance sustainable development goals. The key perspectives that the conference will focus on are:

- (1) Short and long terms measures to promote energy access, and improved environmental management in the context of growth and development efforts, poverty reduction, and achievement of MDGs, from the perspective of how to create an enabling framework.
- (2) Large segments of the population, particularly socially vulnerable groups such as women and children, who directly suffer from the effects of energy poverty and environmental degradation. What can be done by African policy makers and development partners to minimize/mitigate these negative effects and enhance the "quality of life" from the human security concept.
- (3) Building "Ownership" and deepening "Partnership" as well as promoting "Regional Cooperation" as key concepts in developing responses to energy and environment challenges.

4. Participants

- (1) TICAD co-organizers (Japan, UN, UNDP, GCA, World Bank) with the UNEP as a co-host
- (2) African Countries (Ministerial level)
- (3) Other Regions (Western donor countries, etc)
- (4) Regional / International Organizations
- (5) Civil Society / NGOs

**TICAD Ministerial Conference
on Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development
(Annotated Agenda of the Conference)(Tentative)**

February, 2007
MOFA, Japan

Day 1 (March 22)

1. Opening Session (Keynote Speeches) (9:00-9:50)
2. Setting the Stage: Key Energy and Environment issues in the context of Sustainable Development in Africa (10:00-12:30) [Plenary 1]

【Objective】

The session is meant to provide an overview of the current situation and efforts on key energy and environment challenges and opportunities in the context of sustainable development, with particular attention on country policies, regional cooperation through RECs and assistance by International Organizations and Development Partners.

3. Specific Elements of Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development in Africa (1) (14:00-17:00) (Break-out Session)

(a) Building Ownership: Community-based ("Bottom-up") and National-level ("Top-down")

[Focus of the Discussion (tentative)]

In this "Ownership" session, through the presentations on energy access, environmental degradation and their inter-linkages, the focus of the discussions will be on:

- * Central governments' efforts to integrate the issues of energy and environment into their poverty reductions strategies, recognizing the importance and urgency of these issues in the context of sustainable development in Africa (given the current situation of energy poverty, environmental degradation and their inter-linkages)
- * Local governments' efforts to identify and address the issues related to energy and environment that are context-based (urban, peri-urban and rural) and how to develop their institutional capacities.
- * Raising awareness of energy and environment on a community level, particularly with the recognition of the important roles of women and the youth.
- * Achieving greater coordination among different stakeholders and policy makers (including the support from donors and international organizations)

(b) Promoting the Regional Cooperation

[Focus of the Discussion (tentative)]

In this session of “Regional Cooperation,” through the presentations on the issues of energy access, environmental degradation and their inter-linkages, the focus of the discussions will be on:

- * The vital importance of promotion of cooperation among African countries in a specific region (energy and environment as “sources of cooperation,” as opposed to “sources of conflict.”

- * Learning from Best Practice cases in Africa and other regions (ex. EAC setting up an energy strategy with reference to the ECOWAS energy White Paper, cooperative management for the Lake Victoria, etc) in the attempt to find out a best-case-scenario for an enabling framework.

- * The importance of regional cooperation among African countries and the importance of providing assistance by donors and international organizations as a whole, not in a fragmented manner.

(c) Deepening Partnership: Public and Private

[Focus of the discussion (tentative)]

In this session of “Partnership,” through the presentations on the issues of energy access, environmental degradation and their inter-linkages, the focus of the discussions will be on:

- * the importance of increasing sustainable development investments through private-public partnership as well as the coordination among countries, RECs, and international organizations to achieve this objective.

- * the importance of addressing the issues of energy and environment as CSR efforts (ex: planting trees, environmental education)

- * the potential of energy-environment-related industry as business opportunities (alternative energy/bio-energy, energy saving technology)

- * the importance of increased productivity regarding energy and environment in the context of sustainable development

Day 2 (March 23)

4. Specific Elements of Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development in Africa (2) (Break-out session)

- (a) Building Ownership: Community-based (“Bottom-up”), and National-level
- (b) Promoting Regional Cooperation
- (c) Deepening Partnership: Public and Private

5. Reports of the break-out sessions and wrap-up (13:30-15:00)[Plenary 2]

【Objective】

Discuss effective Partnership and Regional Cooperation, encouraging and respecting African Ownership, to find out the next concrete steps regarding efforts on energy and environment for sustainable development in Africa for future.

6. Closing Session (15:30-16:00)

Report policy recommendations out of the conference

(End)

TICAD Ministerial Conference on Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development

March 22-23, 2007

As of February, 2007

Nairobi, UNON, Conference Room

	March. 21 (Wed)	March 22 (Thu.)	March 23 (Fri.)
A.M.		<p>09:00 – 09:50 【Opening Session】 (Main Conference Room)</p> <p>10:00 – 12:30 【Plenary 1】 (Main Conference Room)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(11:00 – 11:15 Coffee Break)</i></p>	<p>09:00 – 11:00 【Break-out Sessions】 (continued)</p> <p><u>Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development in Africa</u></p> <p>I. Building Ownership</p> <p>II. Promoting Regional Cooperation</p> <p>III. Deepening Partnership: Public and Private</p>
		12:45 – 13:45 【Lunch Buffet】 (UNON)	12:00 – 13:00 【Lunch Buffet】 (UNON)
P.M.	10:00 – 22:00 Conference Registration (@Hotel)	<p>14:00 – 17:00 【Break-out Sessions】</p> <p><u>Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development in Africa</u></p> <p>I. Building Ownership</p> <p>II. Promoting Regional Cooperation</p> <p>III. Deepening Partnership: Public and Private</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(15:30 – 15:45 Coffee Break)</i></p>	<p>13:30–15:00 【Plenary 2】 (Main Conference Room)</p> <p><u>Reports of the break-out sessions and Wrap-up</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break)</i></p> <p>15:30–16:00 【Closing Session】 (Main Conference Room)</p> <p>16:30–17:00 【Press Conference】 (Press Conference Room)</p>
	19:00 – 21:00 【Welcome Reception hosted by the government of Japan】 (@InterContinental Nairobi) (tentative)	18:30 – 20:30 【Reception co-hosted by the TICAD organizers】 (@UNON) (tentative)	Farewell Reception/Dinner hosted by Kenyan Government (TBC)