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**REPORT OF THE  
PRESS INTERVIEW OF AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF MIYAGI (AFAM)**

**ORGANIZED BY THE JAPANESE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MOFA)  
AHEAD OF THE 7TH EDITION OF TOKYO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT (TICAD7)**

**HELD ON THE 7TH OF JULY 2019, AT AER BUILDING, SENDAI**

ATTENDANCE: AFAM Representatives

1. Dr. Isaac Yaw Asiedu, AFAM President
2. Dr. Ismail Issah, AFAM Vice President
3. Mr. Emmanuel Jesuyon Dansu, AFAM General Secretary
4. Mr. Emmanuel Kagning Tsinda, AFAM Information Officer
5. Mr. Gideon Sadikiel Mmbando, AFAM Member
6. Mr. Kevin Kipruto Mutai, AFAM Member

ATTENDANCE: International Press Men/Women

1. Ms. Samia Fakhry, Diplomatic Editor, Egypt
2. Ms. Marie-Anne Lepathy, Editor, Seychelles Nations Newspaper
3. Mr. Anthony Maliki, Daily Trust Newspaper, Nigeria
4. Mr. Júlio Manjate, Jornal Noticias, Maputo, Mozambique
5. Mr. Eliud Kibii, The Star, Kenya
6. Mr. Elias Meseret Taye, Associated Press, Ethiopia

MOFA Representative Coordinator: Mr. Takashi Okuda (Not Attended)

Interpreter: Mr. Atsushi Takahashi

#### PROCEEDINGS

The press interview held as a sequel to an earlier press interview request received by AFAM from Dentsu Public Relations, a PR company based in Tokyo, as part of the activities of a Foreign Press Invitation Program sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Press Office as part of publicity for TICAD 7 which would be held in Yokohama from August 28 through 30, 2019.

One reporter from each of six African countries (Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria and Seychelles) was invited to Japan to interview organizations and institutions engaged in activities geared towards African Development and TICAD initiatives. The reporters who were on a tour of Japan were escorted to Sendai by an interpreter, a representative of MOFA.

The press interview started around 10.30 am with a welcome message followed by a comprehensive slide presentation covering the activities of AFAM by Dr. Isaac Asiedu, AFAM President.

After the presentation, questions were asked by the foreign press men/women on the experience of AFAM members in Japan and our activities aimed at promoting the African community and fostering relationships with our host society. The questions were well attended to by the President and all the AFAM representatives in attendance. As an icing on the cake, the press men/women also interviewed AFAM representatives from their respective countries.



In closing, the AFAM President appealed to the MOFA (interpreter) to carry AFAM's message to the office responsible for TICAD in the Japanese Ministry:

*"AFAM is the only recognized African Association in the Tohoku region working closely with JICA Tohoku and other local businesses in promoting TICAD activities in the region. For two consecutive years, 2017 & 2018 AFAM organized two successful events on the themes, African Development & the Support of Japanese Government to African Governments in Achieving the SDGs respectively.*

*AFAM is striving to play a role as an 'Information Hub' regarding Africa's development, human resource and culture so that local businesses and the ordinary citizen in the Tohoku region could quickly and easily find information that they need about Africa.*

*Since most of our members are researchers and graduate students in the universities in the Tohoku region, AFAM has a body of experts that could provide advice and ideas on specific political or socio-economic issues confronting Africa.*

*We welcome MOFA, Dentsu Public Relations Tokyo or any organization's idea for collaboration or a contract/subcontract that will result in an exciting synergy and dynamic program that benefits both AFAM and the partnering organization, and look forward to working on the innovative and unique opportunities that can be created through successful partnerships."*

After the interactions, the press men/women and the representative of MOFA (interpreter) could not hide how impressed they were with the giant strides of AFAM.

The event ended around 12.10 and group pictures were taken. We hope to get the various reports of the press men as soon as they are documented for display on the AFAM website <https://afam-org.com/about-us/>