

## **Day1: Policy Dialogue on the Africa-Japan Partnership for Population and Development**

**20 August 2025 | Tokyo, Japan**



## **Day2: TICAD9 Thematic Event: Let's Discuss the Future of Africa Together with Members of Parliament!**

**21 August 2025 | Yokohama, Japan**



## Day1

# Policy Dialogue on the Africa-Japan Partnership for Population and Development

### 1. Briefing at the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS)

**Dr. Reiko Hayashi, Director-General of IPSS**



Dr. Hayashi opened the morning session by welcoming participants. She began by introducing the history and mandate of IPSS, which was established through the merger of earlier institutions and now focuses on analyzing social security and population issues. IPSS also produces national, prefectural, and municipal population and household projections for Japan.

Regarding global population trends, she explained that projections are calculated by the United Nations. Recent estimates indicate that global population growth will stabilize before entering a long-term decline. Although this stagnation had been predicted previously, updated projections now show that the decline will begin around 2050, while the elderly population will continue to increase. Regionally, sub-Saharan Africa is expected to account for 40% of the world's population in the future.

Over the past decade, population ageing has become a global concern, especially as crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic contributed to declining fertility rates. In sub-Saharan Africa, governments have introduced more policies to support population growth, including family planning, even as the number of older persons continues to rise. Despite these shifts, Africa's population remains significantly larger than other regions, and projections indicate that several African countries will rank among the world's top ten most populous nations. This demographic expansion will increase demand for hospitalization and elderly care services. However, as global population growth slows, concerns about natural resource scarcity are easing.

Turning to Japan, Dr. Hayashi explained that the country began modernizing after the Meiji Restoration in 1887, establishing the family registry system and nationwide statistics. After World War II, the baby-boom generation drove rapid population growth, but this trend has reversed over recent decades. In response to declining fertility and population ageing, Japan has implemented various policies, including measures to support families and increased acceptance of international migrants.

#### Question & Discussions

**Question:** *What efforts has Japan made to stabilize population growth?*

Dr. Hayashi explained that Japan did not implement specific population-control measures; rather, the population decline occurred naturally. Japan's total fertility rate reflects the number of children reaching reproductive age, and this replacement level has been extremely low due to wars and natural disasters. Historically, the government introduced policies to influence population trends, such as legalizing abortion and promoting family planning education. Other measures included encouraging internal migration and allowing more international migration.

**Question:** *How has education influenced fertility trends?*

Dr. Hayashi responded that increased SRH education and expanded educational opportunities for women significantly influenced fertility by reducing unintended pregnancies. This trend began in the 1950s. However, Japan did not effectively promote fertility or improve family-building environments until the 1990s, which contributed to population decline beginning in the 1970s. In the 1990s, the Government of Japan launched the Angel Plan, which introduced policies to address low fertility, including improvements in employment and

childcare. Nevertheless, government spending on family support remains lower than spending on elderly support. She also noted that cultural beliefs—such as the superstition surrounding the “firehorse year”—can influence fertility behavior.

**Question:** *How is IPSS involved in policymaking?*

Dr. Hayashi explained that IPSS is a research institute that collects and analyzes data, which is then provided to ministries such as the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) to support policy decisions. IPSS also collaborates with agencies such as the Agency for Children and Families.

**Question:** *How can countries address population growth and its impact on public services?*

Dr. Hayashi noted that during Japan’s period of population growth, many public services—such as the pension system—were established. She emphasized that systems designed with long-term planning in mind can support populations sustainably. She also stressed the importance of ensuring adequate job opportunities so that educated youth can contribute effectively to national development.

**Question:** *How is Japan addressing population ageing?*

Dr. Hayashi explained that Japan has promoted elderly employment, increased pension support, and expanded healthcare services to ensure that older adults can remain active members of society.

**Question:** *How can countries manage population growth and natural resource allocation?*

Dr. Hayashi stated that during Japan’s period of rapid population growth, resource management was a major concern. However, as fertility rates declined, these potential constraints eased.

## 2. Policy Dialogue

### *Welcome Remarks*

**Hon. Prof. Takemi Keizo, Chair of the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), Former Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare**



Hon. Prof. Takemi noted that the role of parliamentarians has expanded significantly due to globalization, requiring collaboration across national boundaries. He emphasized that this session, held as part of the Ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD9), highlights the importance of strengthening parliamentary networks between Japan and Africa.

He explained that Japan achieved universal health coverage (UHC) in 1961, but maintaining UHC under conditions of rapid population ageing requires strong leadership from politicians and parliamentarians. He also underscored the importance of pharmaceutical initiatives addressing infectious diseases and expressed appreciation for projects that foster collaboration with African partners.

*Presentation1: Mother to Mother SHIONOGI Project: Supporting Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women and Children toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Sub-Saharan Africa*

**Dr. Masashi Deguchi, Ph.D., Corporate Officer, Senior Vice President, Sustainability Management Division, SHIONOGI & CO., LTD**

Dr. Deguchi introduced the Mother to Mother SHIONOGI Project, which has been recognized as an important initiative for promoting health in Africa. SHIONOGI, a pharmaceutical company focused on addressing infectious disease threats, engages in multiple efforts such as supplying antibiotics, ensuring appropriate quality and use, and improving healthcare access. The Mother to Mother SHIONOGI Project aims to contribute to a sustainable society through maternal and childcare support.

The project is being implemented in several sub-Saharan African countries and focuses on improving maternal and childcare services and establishing sustainable community health systems. It is built on three key pillars:

1. Improving medical and water supply infrastructure
2. Promoting health literacy among citizens
3. Strengthening community health systems through collaboration among health volunteers, medical workers, and government authorities



To date, approximately 1,400 mothers in Kenya and Ghana have benefited from the program. Dr. Deguchi reviewed the outcomes of the first two phases of the project before presenting the current third phase, which focuses on improving access to healthcare services in Ghana. Notably, the project established Ghana's first maternity waiting house, where expectant mothers can stay before childbirth and receive care. He also highlighted efforts in Tanzania to address the lack of consistent hygiene practices by developing mobile applications that promote and sustain proper hygiene behaviors in a scalable way.

Dr. Deguchi emphasized that the long-term success of the project depends on creating a sustainable cycle driven autonomously by the community. He concluded by noting that parliamentarians play a critical role in shaping healthcare systems in their countries by securing financial resources, deploying healthcare personnel, and sharing and scaling successful outcomes.

#### Questions and Discussions

**Hon Biata Nyamupinga, MP Zimbabwe**, thanked Dr. Deguchi for his presentation and highlighted the project's achievements in addressing challenges such as limited access to healthcare and the need for mothers' shelters. She shared that Zimbabwe has also attempted to address similar issues by establishing shelters and clinics in rural areas. She expressed hope that the Mother to Mother SHIONOGI Project would expand to Zimbabwe in the future.

**Hon. Alexander Roosevelt Hottordze, MP Ghana**, shared Ghana's experience with the Community Health Planning and Services (CHPS) program. The initiative, originally funded through a 10% salary contribution from government ministers, established 1,600 health facilities to improve healthcare accessibility. The current administration has revised the program by allocating district budgets to build two CHPS compounds annually, aiming for eight facilities per district across 261 districts within four years. He requested support for market infrastructure development and proposed an integrated facility combining market space with healthcare services—including a clinic and breastfeeding center—to improve community health-seeking behavior. He also asked why the SHIONOGI project currently targets only a few countries.

**Dr. Deguchi** explained that while SHIONOGI aims to expand to additional regions, its resources are limited. Therefore, the company is focusing on three countries to build strong case studies. Once the outcomes are demonstrated, SHIONOGI expects to secure additional funding and resources to expand its activities.

**Audience question:** Does SHIONOGI have partners outside Africa? Was the maternity waiting house in Ghana constructed directly by SHIONOGI or through local partners?

**Dr. Deguchi** responded that the maternity waiting house was constructed by Japanese NGOs with branches in Ghana, with SHIONOGI providing the funding. Regarding partnerships, SHIONOGI collaborates with the International Energy World Division in Kenya, as well as other Japanese and international NGOs.

**Audience question:** What challenges has the Mother to Mother Project faced so far?

**Dr. Deguchi** explained that one major challenge has been access to essential resources such as electricity, as supply remains unstable in many regions.

**Hon. Hibo Ali Houssein, MP Djibouti:** Is SHIONOGI interested in expanding the project to Djibouti?

**Dr. Deguchi** stated that SHIONOGI is open to considering expansion to Djibouti.

**Hon. Prof. Keizo** thanked Dr. Deguchi for the presentation and emphasized that maternal and child health is fundamental to primary healthcare and UHC. He commended SHIONOGI & CO., LTD. for its commitment to maternal and child health initiatives and highlighted the broader role of the business community in health development. He also noted opportunities for Japan–Africa technological collaboration in health services. While government-to-government partnerships have limitations, Africa’s positive economic growth and increased government financial resources create new possibilities for cooperation.

He announced Japan’s upcoming launch of a Knowledge Platform for UHC Finance in December, developed in collaboration with WHO and the World Bank. This initiative aims to help African partners expand fiscal space for health financing and strengthen pharmaceutical development capacity. He emphasized the importance of African ownership and encouraged multi-stakeholder networking among NGOs, governments, and international organizations to advance universal health coverage.

### *Presentation2: Young People’s Sexual Reproductive Health*

#### **Dr. Hala Youssef, Adviser of UNFPA Arab States Regional Office**



Dr. Youssef began by highlighting that one-third of Africa’s population consists of young people—equivalent to one-third of the working-age population. This demographic reality significantly influences government policy directions, as young people face challenges such as political instability and economic crises. These factors also affect financing flows and systems, including health and education. In the Arab States region, she noted a shortage of knowledge and expertise, with many experts reaching advanced age and insufficient new specialists emerging. At the same time, governance challenges, weak health systems, and mega-trends such as climate change are affecting SRH needs. To harness the demographic dividend, UNFPA has adjusted its support model around three accelerators: education, empowerment, and employment.

Regarding young people’s SRH needs, Dr. Youssef emphasized that youth must know when and where to access services, and they want to be included in decision-making processes. In the Arab region, young people face significant barriers to accessing SRH services. While maternal health services exist, there is a lack of providers equipped to respond to the needs of adolescents and youth. Communities also show limited commitment to supporting young people’s SRH, leaving many gaps unaddressed.

Improving services requires investments in financing and human resources. However, she stressed that non-return-based financing, rather than project-based funding, has a greater long-term impact on SRH. In many countries, financing is inefficiently allocated, resulting in insufficient resources for SRH. Therefore, it is essential to promote financing models that directly address the needs of young people.

Access to health services is a core component of UHC. Governments must ensure integration across services, strengthen health systems at all levels, train service providers, and establish tools to address social determinants of health. Leveraging diverse partnerships will significantly enhance these efforts.

### Questions & Discussions

**Audience comment:** Several measures discussed focus on SRH after birth, but it is also important to consider SRH before birth. With Africa’s large population, governments must consider how to manage population growth. For example, China attempted to control its population, resulting in a decline, but subsequently experienced economic growth.

**Dr. Youssef** responded that population dynamics involve several pillars: demographic structure and age distribution, a country’s capacity to address structural needs based on GDP, and the role of parliamentarians

in providing legal frameworks, monitoring, and evaluation. Countries must study these pillars carefully and plan accordingly.

**Audience comment:** Parliamentarians must consider how well development policies reflect differences in age structure. This should be taken into account when governments prepare budgets.

**Audience comment:** Young people need access to accurate information; without it, unsafe abortions and drug abuse will increase. Many countries criminalize abortion and drug use without providing proper information. Parliamentarians therefore have an obligation to advocate for financing that ensures safe abortion services and other essential SRH services.

**Audience comment:** On sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), politicians often struggle to reach consensus on appropriate actions.

**Dr. Youssef** agreed, emphasizing the importance of comprehensive sexuality education, safe abortion services, and effective family planning.

**Audience question:** What is the influence of religion on SRH?

**Dr. Youssef** responded that religion does not impact SRH.

### *Presentation3: PATHFINDER's projects in Africa focusing on youth engagement and empowerment*

**Dr. Amina Dorayi, Regional Portfolio Director, West and Central Africa,**

Dr. Dorayi introduced PATHFINDER as an organization that empowers communities and strengthens partnerships across Africa and Asia to create solutions for young people and women. As a global network, PATHFINDER works across multiple thematic areas and adapts its approaches to the specific needs of each country.



PATHFINDER's work focuses on several key areas:

1. Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Ensuring individuals have the knowledge and freedom to make informed decisions about their sexual health. When women and young people can exercise these rights, they are better able to build secure futures for themselves and their families.
2. Women's Leadership and Economic Empowerment Supporting women's participation at all levels of society and strengthening their leadership roles.
3. Health System Strengthening Based on the belief that health systems have a responsibility to provide quality services—especially for young people—PATHFINDER works to improve service delivery and system resilience.
4. Climate and Health Recognizing that climate change significantly affects health systems, PATHFINDER collaborates with women and communities to identify solutions and enhance health resilience.

PATHFINDER also partners with local organizations to strengthen their systems and capacities. Between 2020 and 2024, PATHFINDER supported governments and communities in averting over 32,000 maternal deaths and 28,000 unintended pregnancies through family planning, information sharing, and partnerships. The organization also provided education to 23,000 women and 58,000 community leaders. In Africa, PATHFINDER implemented the Act with Heart program, which helps adolescents navigate the transition to adulthood and develop life skills. The program fosters peer networks through group sessions, enabling adolescents to understand what they need to become healthy adults. Parents were also included to help them better support their children. Regional governments allocated funding and piloted the program for long-term implementation.

Another PATHFINDER project in India used mobile phones and digital technology to provide young people with information that encourages positive social behavior change. The initiative combined SRH information with entrepreneurship support and provided contraceptive services and counseling. This demonstrated how digital technology can effectively address communication barriers and improve access to information. PATHFINDER also launched Impacto, a rights-based program that empowers young women and adolescent girls to exercise autonomy by assessing gender-sensitive SRH services and shifting social norms. Dr. Dorayi concluded by emphasizing that while many countries recognize the issues that need to be addressed, solutions must be context-specific. There is no one-size-fits-all approach; meaningful results come from co-creating solutions with communities.

### Questions & Discussions

**Audience question:** What kinds of support has PATHFINDER received from governments, and would PATHFINDER consider expanding to neighboring countries?

**Dr. Dorayi** explained that PATHFINDER consults with governments before implementing any project to ensure alignment with national policies. This prevents projects from being perceived as foreign concepts and allows PATHFINDER to help refresh and strengthen existing policies. However, she noted that governments often lag behind in providing financial support.

**Audience comments:** Regarding the use of information technology, how can governments ensure that the content provided to young people is accurate and appropriate?

**Dr. Dorayi** responded that many apps can be developed at low cost to provide free information, but the content must be carefully created and agreed upon by stakeholders. It is also essential to ensure that young people understand the implications of the decisions they make.

**Audience question:** How can governments address religious and cultural stigmas to promote SRH?

**Dr. Dorayi** explained that religious and cultural stigmas have evolved over time, and interpretations vary among individuals. She noted that female religious leaders often provide more rational and supportive guidance than male leaders. She emphasized that religion is not meant to oppress but to offer choice. It is therefore important to ensure that young people and women are mentally prepared to use contraception and make informed decisions about childcare.



*Closing remarks*

**Hon. Prof. Takemi Keizo** thanked the participants and presenters for their valuable contributions. He highlighted several key themes discussed during the session, including gender issues raised by UNFPA, investment in youth, and active aging—an especially relevant topic as Japan and many Asian countries experience rapid population aging. He emphasized the interconnected nature of gender equality, youth investment, and active aging, stressing that parliamentarians must adopt comprehensive approaches that consider these relationships to achieve sustainable national development.

He also noted the current geopolitical tensions and humanitarian challenges around the world, underscoring the importance of continued collaboration beyond national borders. He expressed confidence that this inaugural Japan–Africa parliamentary networking initiative will strengthen ongoing partnerships and support the development of a shared agenda moving forward.



## Day2

### TICAD 9 Thematic Event:

## Let's Discuss the Future of Africa Together with Members of Parliament!

### Introduction

On 21 August 2025, parliamentarians and experts from Africa and Arab States gathered in Yokohama, Japan, for the TICAD 9 Thematic Event, “*Let’s Discuss the Future of Africa Together with Members of Parliament!*”. The event was organized by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), in collaboration with the Forum of Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAPPD) and the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (FPA). It was supported by UNFPA ASRO, the Japan Trust Fund (JTF), and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

Held at Pacifico Yokohama, the event brought together parliamentarians, policymakers, representatives of international organizations, government officials, and youth groups, and provided a platform to exchange perspectives on sustainable development and population issues. It also highlighted Japan’s long-standing support for Africa through initiatives in health, education, infrastructure, and capacity building, and showcased concrete achievements such as strengthened community health systems, expanded access to sexual and reproductive health services, and increased opportunities for women and youth across partner countries.

Before the opening session, students from the “APDA Global Young Leaders Course” delivered a short presentation.

### Opening Session

**Hon. Aisawa Ichiro, MP Japan, Chair of the Japan–Africa Union (AU) Parliamentary Friendship League, and Senior Vice-Chair of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)**

Hon. Aisawa highlighted global disparities in food and nutrition, contrasting overnutrition in developed regions with food insecurity in Africa and other developing countries. He emphasized Africa’s demographic significance, noting projections that the population will rise from 1.5 billion today to 2.5 billion by 2050, and potentially 4 billion by 2100. This demographic shift was described as both an opportunity and a risk, depending on progress in education, stability, and economic development. Japan’s experience with population ageing was presented as a model for knowledge-sharing and cooperation. He concluded with a call for collective efforts to ensure a prosperous and sustainable future for Africa.

**Mr. Nakamura Ryo, Ambassador, Assistant Minister/Director-General for Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan**

Mr. Nakamura emphasized Japan’s longstanding support for population and development issues through cooperation with organizations such as UNFPA and IPPF, including the establishment of the Japan Trust Fund (JTF) by Japanese parliamentarians. He referenced Japan’s recent SDGs report (*Voluntary National Review 2025 Report on the implementation of 2030 Agenda JAPAN*)<sup>1</sup>, which highlights these contributions. Examples from Africa were noted, including legislation to prevent violence against girls, expand educational opportunities, and raise the legal marriage age to combat child marriage. Japan reaffirmed its commitment to advancing SRHR globally, sharing lessons from its own experiences, and deepening partnerships with African countries.

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<sup>1</sup> Government of Japan, *Voluntary National Review 2025: Report on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda*, p. 225. Available at: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/sdgs/vnr/vnr2025en.html>

## Panel Discussion

Moderator: **Hon. Makihara Hideki, Former Minister of Justice, President/Representative Director of Dream Platform Co., Ltd**

Panelists:

- **Hon. Luhamba Mwene, MP Zambia**
- **Hon. Maneno Zumura, MP Uganda**
- **Hon. Alexander Roosevelt Hottordze, MP Ghana**
- **Hon. Dr. Ezzeddine Tayeb, , MP Tunisia**

### **Key Question 1:**

*Good practices of Japan-supported activities in collaboration with parliamentary groups on population and development.*



### **Hon. Maneno Zumura, MP Uganda**

Japan's support—particularly through JICA—has been instrumental in advancing development efforts in Uganda. Key contributions include infrastructure development (roads and bridges), education and vocational training, women's empowerment programs, and agricultural development. Japan has also supported refugee-hosting communities through health centers and livelihood projects. These initiatives have improved household incomes, access to services, maternal health, and community resilience, demonstrating the impact of parliamentary collaboration supported by Japan.

### **Hon. Dr. Ezzeddine Tayeb, MP Tunisia**

Hon. Tayeb expressed appreciation for Japan's long-standing partnership, noting its significant contributions to sustainable development in Tunisia. Japanese support has strengthened legislative efforts related to youth, persons with disabilities, families, health, and women's empowerment. This cooperation has improved public services and quality of life, ensuring people-centered development.

### **Hon. Luhamba Mwene, MP Zambia**

Hon. Mwene expressed gratitude for Japan’s extensive support, particularly through JOICFP, which has strengthened Zambia’s healthcare system by funding family planning initiatives, training healthcare staff, and improving district- and clinic-level services. Japan has also supported cancer screening, clean water access, education, and infrastructure. Parliamentary collaboration has been enhanced through support to ZAPPD, enabling legislators to engage more effectively in policy responses. This long-term partnership since 2015 demonstrates a holistic approach combining service delivery, infrastructure, capacity building, and local ownership.

### **Hon. Alexander Roosevelt Hottordze, MP Ghana**

Hon. Hottordze acknowledged Japan’s consistent technical and financial support, which has strengthened key sectors such as health, education, and infrastructure. He highlighted Ghana’s new “24-Hour Economy” initiative aimed at driving economic transformation through round-the-clock productivity and growth in agriculture, pharmaceuticals, tourism, and transport. He encouraged continued Japanese partnership, especially through private sector investment.



### **Key Question 2:**

*What are the strengths of Japan’s support and expectations for future collaboration?*

### **Hon. Alexander Roosevelt Hottordze, MP Ghana**

Japan’s support is powerful and multi-sectoral. Contributions include classroom construction, equipment provision, scholarships, laboratories and health facilities (notably during COVID-19), and medical officer training. Japan’s assistance has also enabled Ghana to reach 87% national electrification and supported agricultural training for over 10,600 farmers. Continued collaboration is expected to sustain development momentum.

### **Hon. Maneno Zumura, MP Uganda**

Japan’s cooperation is unique and unmatched. Infrastructure projects, women’s economic empowerment, and parliamentary policy support have been transformative. Japan has strengthened Uganda’s health sector, vocational education, and leadership capacity. Uganda looks forward to deeper collaboration.

### **Hon. Dr. Ezzeddine Tayeb, MP Tunisia**

Japan's support is notable for its quality and breadth, with significant impact in transportation, healthcare, women's empowerment, youth development, and family support. Future expectations include expanded cooperation in education, digital innovation, youth empowerment, and sustainable development.

### **Hon. Luhamba Mwene, MP Zambia**

Japan's support stands out for its transparent direct funding, holistic approach, strong monitoring, and long-term engagement. Local ownership is emphasized, ensuring community commitment. Zambia seeks expanded collaboration to scale up reproductive health services and youth SRH programs.

### Q&A Session

**Audience question:** *How can young talent development be linked to job creation and technology?*

**Hon. Hottordze (Ghana)** responded that Ghana is strengthening technical and vocational training, emphasizing early STEM education and innovation, such as using pineapple fiber for new products. He encouraged further collaboration with Japan.

**Audience question:** *Will Japan expand direct private-sector partnerships in Africa?*

**Mr. Nakamura (MOFA Japan)** explained that Japan prioritizes capacity building, citing the Abe Initiative, which promotes job training and Japanese business entry into African markets.

**Hon. Hottordze (Ghana)** added that Ghana needs greater private sector engagement to drive economic transformation.

**Hon. Kamikawa Yoko (Japan)** emphasized that TICAD9 prioritizes public-private partnerships and collaboration with startups to foster innovation.

**Audience question:** *How can youth in Asia support youth in Africa?*

**Hon. Zumura (Uganda)** highlighted high school dropout rates among girls due to early pregnancies and encouraged Asian youth to raise awareness and promote education.

**Hon. Hottordze (Ghana)** encouraged reactivating Japan's volunteer programs, suggesting modern versions focusing on IT and critical thinking.

**Audience question:** *How can Japan's support align with Africa Agenda 2063 and the post-SDG framework?*

**Panelists** responses with the emphases of the following:

- alignment with national policies (Zambia),
- continued support for youth and women (Tunisia),
- partnerships that promote self-reliance (Ghana),
- locally owned, sustainable initiatives (Uganda).



### Wrap-Up Session

#### **Dr. Hala Youssef, Adviser of UNFPA Arab States Regional Office**

Dr. Youssef highlighted Japan's prioritization of health and education, effective project follow-up, and respect for cultural contexts. She reaffirmed Japan's sustained support to Africa and the Arab region and emphasized the importance of parliamentary diplomacy in advancing the SDGs and ICPD PoA. She praised the strong cooperation between FAPPD and APDA as a model for addressing SRH, GBV, and youth empowerment.

UNFPA expressed deep appreciation for Japan's long-standing support through JTF and APDA's commitment. She concluded that TICAD 9 is a renewed call to action toward sustainable, equitable development.

### Closing Session



#### **Dr. Alvaro Bermejo, Director-General of IPPF**

Dr. Bermejo highlighted IPPF's major role in Africa, where half of its global operations are based. In 2024, African member associations delivered 99 million SRH services to 32 million people. He warned of urgent challenges: policy shifts, funding cuts, weakening multilateral cooperation, and WHO projections of a potential 40% decline in healthcare access. He urged African leadership to seize this moment to advance sovereignty, self-reliance, and solidarity, supported by fair trade, structural reforms, debt relief, and strong government-led investment.

#### **Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, Chair of JPPF and Former Minister of Foreign Affairs**

Hon. Kamikawa reaffirmed the strong partnership between Japan and African countries and the shared commitment to advancing population issues, SRH, gender equity, and youth empowerment. She emphasized the central role of JTF in supporting parliamentary initiatives and cross-regional collaboration, and the critical role of parliamentarians in safeguarding rights and strengthening legal frameworks. She expressed appreciation to partners including UNFPA and IPPF and called for deeper partnerships and collective efforts toward peace, health, equity, and sustainable development.



A promotional poster for the TICAD9 Thematic Event. The background is orange with a red border. At the top, it says "TICAD9 THEMATIC EVENT" in green. Below that, in black text, it says "Let's Discuss the Future of Africa Together with Members of Parliament!". Underneath is the Japanese text "国会議員と一緒にアフリカの未来を考えよう!". In the center is a QR code. To the right of the QR code is the APDA logo, which features a globe with the letters "APDA" above it. At the bottom, it says "The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)".

Participants' List			
	Name	Country	Position
<b>Africa and Arab Parliamentarians</b>			
1	Hon. Khaled Bourenane	Algeria	MP
2	Hon. Dr. Abdelhady Elkasbey	Egypt	MP
3	Hon. Dr. Hibo Ali Houssein	Djibouti	MP
4	Hon. Dr. Ezzeddine Tayeb	Tunisia	MP
5	Dr. Mohammed Al-Smadi	Jordan	FAPPD Executive Director
6	Hon. Milkias Ayele	Ethiopia	MP
7	Hon. Alexander Roosevelt Hottordze	Ghana	MP
8	Hon. Maneno Zumura	Uganda	MP
9	Hon. Luhamba Mwene	Zambia	MP, Vice-chair of ZAPPD
10	Hon Biata Nyamupinga	Zimbabwe	MP
<b>Partner Organizations / Presenters / Observers</b>			
11	Dr. Hala Youssef	UNFPA	Adviser, UNFPA Arab States Regional Office
12	Dr. Alvaro Bermejo	IPPF	Director-General of IPPF
13	Dr. Amina Dorayi	PATHFINDER	Regional Portfolio Director, West and Central Africa, PATHFINDER International
14	Mr. Kano Mitsunobu	Japan	APDA councillor
15	Ms. Yoon Hanna		APDA councillor, Advisor, Center for International Development Evaluation (CIDE), Seoul National University; Advisor, World Smart Sustainable Cities Ph.D., Corporate Officer, Senior Vice President, Sustainability Management Division, SHIONOGI & CO., LTD.
16	Mr. Deguchi Masashi	Japan	SHIONOGI & CO., LTD.
17	Ms. Tani Yukari	Japan	SHIONOGI & CO., LTD.
18	Hon. Takemi Keizo	Japan	Chair of APDA, Former Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare
19	Mr. Koike Toshio	Japan	APDA councillor
20	Mr. Mihara Asahiko	Japan	APDA councillor
21	Hon. Kamikawa Yoko	Japan	MP, Chair of JPFP
22	Hon. Aisawa Ichiro	Japan	MP, Chair of Japan-Africa Union (AU) Parliamentary Friendship League, Senior Vice-Chair of JPFP
23	Mr. Makihara Hideki	Japan	Former Minister of Justice and President/Representative Director of Dream Platform Co., Ltd.
24	Mr. Tsuji Hayaki		Founder of One Smile Foundation
25	Dr. Kitagaki Hideko		Kaichi International University
26	Joice Chan		Atens Group
27	Ms. Hayashi Himena		Baiko Gakuin University
28	Ms. Konno Kazue		
29	Katazakai 片塚一暁		Katazakai Social Insurance and Labor Consultant Office
30	Dr. Mady Biaye		UNFPA Representative for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
<b>APDA Young Leaders Course</b>			
31	Hyeonmin Hong		student
32	Yena Park		student
33	Emma Shin		student
34	Oshiro Souta		student
35	Hyungjoon Choo		student
36	Miyazaki Amaki		student
37	Shikii Shun		student
38	Yamamoto Karuta		student
39	Haketa Leo		student
40	Konno Takeru		student
41	Harada Momoko		student
42	Yoshihara Sota		student

The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)		
43	<b>Dr. Kiyoko Ikegami</b>	Japan Secretary General / Vice-Chair of APDA
44	<b>Ms. Hitomi Tsunekawa</b>	Japan Executive Director of APDA
45	<b>Dr. Farrukh Usmonov</b>	Japan Executive Director of AFPPD
46	<b>Ms. Haga Yukika</b>	Japan APDA
47	<b>Ms. Fuke Mio</b>	Japan APDA
48	<b>Ms. Osada Eri</b>	Japan APDA
49	<b>Ms. Hoshino Anna</b>	Japan APDA
50	<b>TAKAMURA Hikari</b>	Japan volunteer
51	<b>HNIN KAYTHAYI NAING</b>	Myanmar volunteer
52	<b>ERDENEBILEG ERDENETSETSEG</b>	Japan volunteer
53	<b>ヤグナーチツ</b>	Myanmar volunteer
54	<b>KOBAYASHI Chieri</b>	Japan volunteer
55	<b>MUROFUSHI Maho</b>	Japan volunteer
56	<b>CHAN MYAE KHIN</b>	Myanmar volunteer
57	<b>HOSOGAI Hidemi</b>	Japan volunteer
58	<b>SANDAR Tun</b>	Myanmar volunteer
59	<b>NAKAMURA Rikuto</b>	Japan volunteer
60	<b>グエンティ アイン</b>	Myanmar volunteer
Interpreters/Photographer/Videographer		
61	<b>Mr. Max Eris</b>	Prime International Rapporteur
62	<b>Mr. Noobori Masaki</b>	Photographer
63		Prime International Interpreter
64	<b>Mr. Kobayashi</b>	Photographer