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**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY**

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2007 Africa Day Symposium Will Be Held on 25 May

Event: 2007 Africa Day Symposium
Theme: “Financial Instruments for the Promotion of Infrastructure, Trade and Investment between Japan and Africa”
Date/Time: 25 May 2007 (Friday), 09:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Venue: U Thant International Conference Hall, UN House, Tokyo
Organizers: United Nations University (UNU) and African Diplomatic Corps (ADC)
Supporter: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan (tentative)

- The annual Africa Day Symposium in 2007 will highlight the main policy-actions recently adopted by the Japanese Government and its agencies — namely, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) — to boost trade and investment flows with Africa.
- The symposium will further provide an opportunity to reassess the importance of providing infrastructure as a pivotal parameter in any strategy to spur sustainable economic growth that could put Africa on the path of development and poverty reduction. It will revisit the policy-actions being implemented in Africa in those areas, as well as the contributions being sought from bilateral partners including Japan.
- The 2007 Africa Day Symposium will seek to contribute to preparations for the fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV), which will be held in 2008, and to the G8 Summit to be held in Japan in 2008. The goal is to create additional opportunities for the adoption and implementation of good policy recommendations regarding African development.
- The symposium will open with welcoming remarks by UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel and Tunisian Ambassador Salah-Hannachi, Dean of the African Diplomatic Corps.
- The symposium will feature keynote speeches by Yoshiro Mori (former Prime Minister of Japan; Member of the House of Representatives, Japan; and President of the Japan–African Union Parliamentary Friendship Association), Koji Omi (Minister of Finance and Member, House of Representatives, Japan), Bouna Sékou Diouf (Director, TICAD/UNDP Africa Bureau) and Bernd Fischer (Chargé d’Affaires a.i., German Embassy).
- The keynote session will be followed by a panel discussion moderated by UNU Rector van Ginkel. Panellist will include Stuart Harold Comberbach (Ambassador, Republic of Zimbabwe), Lester Dally (Acting Special Representative, World Bank Office, Japan) Yoshiaki Kawamata (Managing Executive Officer, Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi UFJ Ltd.), Shigeru Kiyama (Resident Executive Director for Africa, JBIC), Shuichiro Megata (Director-General, Sub-Saharan African Affairs Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan), and Yoshiteru Uramoto (Deputy to the Director-General, Coordination and Field Operations Division, UNIDO).
- The symposium will end with closing remarks by Wasswa Biriggwa, Ambassador of the Republic of Uganda, chairperson of the symposium.
- Simultaneous English-Japanese interpretation will be provided.
- For those unable to attend, the lecture will be “webcast” live (and archived) at <http://c3.unu.edu/videoportal/?128>.

Media representatives are cordially invited to attend. Please contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu) to confirm your attendance.

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