UNU-IAS to Hold Public TICAD IV Pre-event on “The Future of Africa”

Event: A TICAD IV Pre-event Symposium on “Considering the Future of Africa from Yokohama — Capacity Building and Our Roles towards Sustainable Development in Africa”

Date/Time: 22 November 2007 (Thurs.), 18:00–20:40

Venue: Hamagin Hall “Via Mare”, Minato Mirai, Yokohama

Organizer: United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)

Co-organizers: City of Yokohama and Yokohama National University

Overview

- The Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) will be held in May 2008 in Yokohama. As a contribution to its host city, Yokohama, UNU-IAS is organizing this public symposium to raise the citizens’ awareness about TICAD IV and to encourage people to think about how they can become involved in resolving some of the issues facing Africa, such as poverty, hunger, environmental destruction and insufficient education.

- This symposium will provide a variety of viewpoints and opinions from specialists/researchers from journalism, international organizations, universities, local government, aid organizations and NGOs.

- The symposium will seek to identify Africa’s future prospects and the key factors to drive sustainable development on the continent, and to propose supportive roles that Japan can play, especially in the area of capacity building and education.

- There will be a poster session introducing various activities in the area of international cooperation carried out by the City of Yokohama and other associated international organizations.

About the symposium

- The symposium will begin with opening remarks by UNU-IAS Director A.H. Zakri and Yokohama Mayor Hiroshi Nakada. The facilitator of the entire session will be Yokohama Deputy Mayor Yumiko Noda.

- The keynote speakers will be Mitsuya Araki, CEO of International Development Journal, and Ambassador Baldwin S. Ngubane of the Embassy of the Republic of South Africa.

- There will be a panel discussion on “Capacity Building and Our Roles towards Sustainable Development in Africa” moderated by Yasushi Katsuma, Director, Waseda University Institute of African Studies. Panellists will be Dorcas Otieno, Executive Director, Kenya Organization for Environmental Education; Tsuneo Kurokawa, Director, General, Regional Department IV, JICA; and Tatsuhiko Ikeda, Professor, International Graduate School of Social Sciences, Yokohama National University.

- Closing remarks will be delivered by Sayaka Funada Classen, Vice President, TICAD Civil Society Forum.

- Simultaneous Japanese–English interpretation will be provided.

- A programme of this event is available online at http://www.ias.unu.edu/. For further information and registration, send e-mail to ticad4seminar@ias.unu.edu.

Media representatives are cordially invited to attend the Symposium. For more information, or to reserve your space, please contact Kayoko Nakayama, UNU-IAS (tel: 045-221-2300/2315; e-mail: ticad4seminar@ias.unu.edu).