



**ASSESSMENT OF
ERITRO-JAPANESE COOPERATION
ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

August 22, 2010



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BACKGROUND INFO

- Tokyo Int. Conference on African Dev. (TICAD) Meetings held every 5 years**
- TICAD IV Tokyo (May 30, 2008)**
- H.E. President Isayas attended the meeting & requested the Gov't of Japan to assist Eritrea in promoting its HE system**



JAPANESE DELEGATION

- **As a follow up to President Isayas' request a Japanese exploratory mission came to Eritrea in Dec. 2008**
- **Another delegation (6-9 April, 2009)**

The delegation consisted of:

- **13 university professors**
- **JICA Representative**
- **MEXT Representative**



JAPANESE ...

- A 2-day seminar was conducted at Asmara Palace Hotel (6 & 7 April 2009)**
- Japanese Delegation and PCCHE Members**
- Presentations were made from both sides**

AIM: a) To exchange experiences on HE of the two countries

b) To identify possible areas of collaboration



AREAS OF COLLABORATION

Possible areas of collaboration:

- Faculty development**
- Secondment of Japanese Scholars**
- Curriculum development**
- Strengthening teaching facilities in IHE**
- Strengthening research capacity**
- Staff-student exchange**

Visits were also arranged to the various colleges



ERITREAN DELEGATION

- Eritrean Delegation of HE was invited by JICA to visit Japan**

- Visit: 8-22 November 2009**

- The Eritrean delegation consisted of:**
 - All PCCHE members**
 - DG, Dept. of Treasury (MoF)**
 - The Eritrean Ambass. to Japan**



ERITREAN ...

The Delegation paid visits to:

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- MEXT**
- JICA**
- 8 Universities**
- 1 Technical & 1 Elementary Schools**
- Historical Sites**



ERITREAN ...

Historical Sites visited include:

- **Hiroshima Memorial Park**
- **Art Park (Park of statues)**
- **Itsukushima Shrine (Miyajima)**
- **Tokyo Tower**

And others



OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

Objectives of the mission:

- a) To make preliminary assessment of IHE in Japan**
- b) To familiarise the Eritrean Delegation with the HE system of Japan**
- c) To discuss our challenges on HE**
- d) To further explore & consolidate possible areas of collaboration**
- e) To conclude a cooperation agreement**



OBJECTIVES ...

The Eritrean Delegation was :

- ❑ Very much pleased by the meticulous planning of the visit**
- ❑ Impressed by the hospitality and kindness of the Japanese people**
- ❑ Amazed by the industriousness & hard working nature of the Japanese people**
- ❑ impressed by the HE system of Japan & its overall development**



ASSESSMENT OF THE MISSION

During the visit, the Eritrean Delegation:

- ❑ was able to learn a lot from the Japanese IHE**
- ❑ The respective Deans of the colleges were able to make one-to-one discussion with their Japanese counterparts**
- ❑ Some sort of understanding was reached on the overall cooperation agreement**



OUTCOME

- **Deans have, since then, been communicating with their Japanese counterparts to consolidate the areas of cooperation**
- **As part of this cooperation agreement 7 Eritrean scholars went to Japan in 2010/2011 to pursue their masters education in Japanese IHE**



OUTCOME ...

- Two laptop computers and a colour printer were supplied to the ED Office (NBHE) by JICA**
- All colleges have been asked to present their immediate book requests to JICA – they did a year ago & purchase is awaiting**



OUTCOME ...

- 7 GAs from all IHE are making the necessary preparations to go and study in Japan**
- A plan is underway to conclude a cooperation agreement with JKUAT through JICA sometime in the next couple of months**



CONCLUSION

- Almost three years have elapsed since the inception of the program, but very little has been achieved so far**
- The pace at which the agreement started is not matching with what is being implemented at the ground**
- Thus, much is desired of this cooperation agreement**



CONCLUSION ...

Eritrea is looking forward to the overall cooperation agreement with Japanese IHE on the areas identified, so that our IHE could be promoted to a level much higher than their current position and eventually attain comparable standards to Japanese IHE.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Eritrean Gov't, in general, and the NBHE, in particular, extend their appreciation and thanks to:

- The Japanese Gov't for the overall assistance given to us so far**
- JICA for its overall assistance and for giving us the opportunity to visit Japan and the IHE in the country**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- Members of the MEXT for arranging visits of the Eritrean Delegation to the various IHE in Japan**
- All the university professors who assisted the Delegation to visit their premises**



ARIGATO!

**Thank You Very Much
for Your Attention!**