

# Policy Workshop on Japan-Kenya Relations

## List of Guest Speaker and Panelists

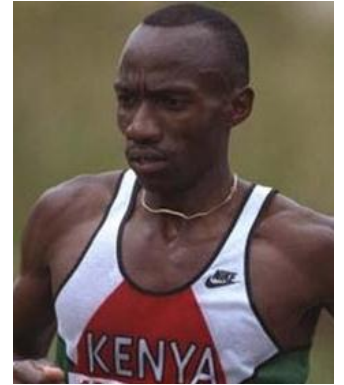
### GUEST SPEAKER

■ **Mr. Douglas Wakiihuri**, Olympian

Mr. Wakiihuri is a renowned marathon runner who has strong ties with Japan. At the age of 19, he left Kenya for Japan, where he had training with a Japanese coach to become a long-distance runner.

Among many outstanding achievements, he won the gold medal at 1987 World Championships in Rome and the silver medal at 1988 Seoul Olympic Game.

He established Douglas Wakiihuri Marathon School in 2000. He has been engaged in sports exchange programs between Japan and Kenya.



### PANEL DISCUSSION *(Panelists in an Alphabetical order)*

#### Theme One: Overview of Japan-Kenya Bilateral Relations

■ **Prof. Peter Kagwanja**, Chief Executive, Africa Policy Institute

Prof. Kagwanja is the founding President and Chief Executive of the Africa Policy Institute, a Pan-African think-tank specializing in policy research on security, governance and strategic issues in Africa.

He worked with numerous universities, intellectual networks, and international think tanks, including the International Crisis Group, where he served as a Pretoria-based regional director in Africa. He also served as an adviser to the former President Kibaki's government between 2007 and 2013.



■ **Prof. Macharia Munene**, United States International University (USIU)

Prof. Munene teaches history and international relations at the USIU since 1997. He has overseas teaching experience at Universitat Jaume I in Spain and Kentucky State University and Ohio State University in the US. He has also taught at National Defence College and the University of Nairobi in Kenya.

He also contributes to the research activities of the International Peace Support Training Centre, which are funded by the Government of Japan.



■ **Prof. Amb. Maria Nzomo**, Director of the Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies, University of Nairobi

Professor Nzomo holds the distinction of being the first Kenyan woman to attain a PhD in political science, which she earned in 1981 from Dalhousie University in Canada.

She has over 30 years of teaching experience at the University of Nairobi. In 2012, she assumed the position of Director of the Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies, which is a regional postgraduate training institution based at the University of Nairobi.

Between October 2003 and January 2009, she held a number of ambassadorial posts in southern Africa (Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe) and at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.



- **Mr. Mikio Mori** (Facilitator), Minister and Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Japan

Mr. Mori joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) in 1985. He has taken up his position as Deputy Head of the Japanese Embassy in Kenya since arriving in Nairobi in September 2013.

He has served overseas at the Permanent Mission to the United Nations, the Consulate General in New York, and the Embassies in Australia, Singapore, and Germany. He has also served as Director in charge of Africa including Kenya and was responsible for the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) at the Ministry in Tokyo.



## Theme Two: Economic Cooperation

- **Amb. Dennis Awori**, Chairman of Toyota Kenya

Amb. Awori has a rich business experience with Japan. He served as Executive Advisor of Toyota East Africa until 2001. He assumed his current position as Chairman of Toyota Kenya in 2009.

He also strengthened bilateral relations between Japan and Kenya as Ambassador to Japan between 2004 and 2009. He contributed to the success of the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) held in Yokohama City, Japan, in 2008.



- **Mr. Denise Kodhe**, Executive Director, Institute for Democracy and Leadership in Africa

Mr. Kodhe has deep knowledge about Japan's development assistance in Africa from his former experience of serving as PR and Media Consultant for JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency). He currently serves as Chairman of Saidia Furaha, a Japanese NGO operating in Kajiado. He represented African civil society at the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), which took place in June 2013. From time to time, he contributes to Japanese news agencies such as Mainichi Shimbun and Kyodo News.

He established the Institute for Democracy and Leadership in Africa (IDEA), which is a Nairobi-based think tank. He is a former National Director of Kenya Railways Cooperation.



- **Mr. Yoshiyuki Sato**, Founder of Kenya Nuts Company

Fascinated by Africa, Mr. Sato has been active in this continent for half a century. In Kenya, he founded Kenya Nuts Company, which is famous for its Out of Africa brand, in August 1974. There he introduced Japanese management style, which cares each and every employee. For example, he started a staff loan system as well as an office clinic. Such measures increased the performance of his workers.

He recently began his organic business and established his new company, Organic Solutions, in Kenya, Rwanda, and Japan.



- **Mr. Hideo Eguchi** (Facilitator), Chief Representative, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Kenya Office

Mr. Eguchi joined JICA, Japan's aid implementation organization, in April 1986. He took the position of Chief Representative of JICA Kenya Office in March 2012. Before Kenya, he held various positions, including Project Coordinator in Ghana (1989-1992) and Country Representative in Zimbabwe (2004-2007).

He is now responsible for JICA project formulation and operation in Burundi, Seychelles, Eritrea, and Somalia in addition to Kenya.

