

Country Development Cooperation Policy for the Federal Republic of Somalia

September 2020

1. Purposes of Development Cooperation

The Federal Republic of Somalia has experienced more than 20 years of insurgency and repeated natural disasters which disrupt domestic economy and social infrastructure. These burdens are leaving the entire population extremely vulnerable. A new government has been established after the transitional government ended in August 2012, and the country is currently in the state of reconstruction. It is extremely important for the country to be reconstructed into a peaceful and stable nation with maintained sovereignty and territorial integrity from the viewpoint of peace and stability of the East African region and maritime security around the Gulf of Aden.

Realization of a peaceful and safe society through supporting peacebuilding is a priority issue stipulated in the Japan Development Cooperation Charter. Furthermore, it is essential to pursue the “rule of law” society in which vulnerable groups, who have not been sufficiently protected in a prolonged insurgency context from the perspective of human security, are able to gain peace and safety.

It is said that 60% of the population in Somalia is young people under 25 years old and part of them lean to anti-governmental armed groups and/or pirates to earn bread and butter. There is an urgent need to create employment opportunities and promote healthy growth in the country. Japan has been participating in humanitarian assistance and countermeasures against piracy in Somalia. With the approval of the Federal Government and the resumption of bilateral assistance in February 2013, the Government of Japan recognizes that it is important to continue to contribute to the reconstruction of Somalia as a member of the international community.

2. Basic Policy of Japanese ODA: Support for consolidation of peace and stabilization of the economy and social environment for reconstruction of the nation

The Government of Japan supports realization of the Six-Pillar Policyⁱ as well as the National Development Plan 2020-2024 (NDP9)ⁱⁱ of the Federal Government of Somalia, and to support the realization of basic social services, improvement of the federal government's ability to maintain security, and the revitalization of domestic industries.

The Government of Japan implements coordination of SDGs: 1.No poverty, 2.Zero Hunger, 3. Good Health and Well-Being, 4.Quality Education, 5.Gender Equality, 6. Clean Water and Sanitation, 8.Decent Work and Economic Growth, 9.Industry Innovation and Infrastructure, 10.Reduced Inequalities, 11.Sustainable Cities and Communities, 14.Life below water, 15.Life on Land, 16.Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

3. Priority Areas

(1) Recovery of Basic Social Service Delivery

In order to restore basic social services, such as health, education and WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) from prolonged internal conflict, the Government of Japan supports Federal Government and Federal Member States, including Puntland and Somaliland, to increase their technical capacity and to build quality social infrastructure to improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups, such as women and Internally Displaced People (IDPs).

(2) Capacity improvement on Security maintenance

To contribute to peace and stability of Somalia, the Government of Japan strengthens the capabilities of police and maritime security organizations, mainly in the central and southern regions where security issues remain in order to enable the Federal Government to fulfill its responsibilities.

(3) Revitalization of Domestic Industry

To revitalize domestic industry, such as the service and fishery industry, the Government of Japan stimulates the spontaneity of Somali people and facilitates the participation of the youth. Also, the Government of Japan will give due consideration for rehabilitation and reintegration of young people who have been in conflict for many years and who have deviated from social order at insurgency.

4. Points to be considered:

(1) Other than priority areas above, the Government of Japan proactively implements humanitarian aids along with the situation of Somalia.

(2) Somalia's security situation remains unpredictable, especially in the central and southern regions. As long as the current security situation continues, the Government of Japan provides support mainly through the United Nations and international organizations while limiting bilateral assistance to training in Japan and training in third countries where Japanese aid workers do not engage in local activities. In addition, the Government of Japan considers cooperation with other donors, ABE initiative (African Business Education Initiative for Youth) participants and Somali Diasporas, who have acquired skills overseas for many years and are easily integrated into the local communities.

(3) Since Somalia is a multi-clan nation and has diverse groups within the country, the Government of Japan bears supporting the nation with regional and clan balance in mind..

(4) With regard to promotion of the New Deal for fragile states, under the initiative of the Somali Federal Government, there is a full-scale movement of aid coordination among donors and support implementing agencies. It is essential to actively circulate Japan's assistance policy in these discussions.

Annex: Rolling Plan

ⁱThose six pillars are (i) Full Stability – Supremacy of the Law and Good Governance, (ii) Economic Recovery - Livelihoods and Economic infrastructure , (iii) Peace Building- Social reconciliation through Building Bridges of Trust, (iv) Service Delivery - Health, Education and Environment, (v) International Relations-Building, collaborative relations and Polishing the National Image and (vi) The Unity and the Integrity of the country through Reconciliation.

ⁱⁱIt has 4 priority areas (i) Inclusive Politics, (ii) Security and Rule of Law, (iii) Economic Development and (iv) Social Development.