

Decision on Development Cooperation Charter

February 2015
MOFA of Japan

Process

- ◆ **1992** Cabinet decision on **ODA(Official Development Assistance)Charter** =>**2003 Revision**(Cabinet decision)
- ◆ **March 2014** **Announcement of review of ODA Charter** by H.E.Mr. Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs
“As we move into a new era, ODA that has built up a 60-year history must also evolve. In this light, I have decided this year to review and revise the ODA Charter.”
- ◆ **February 2015** Cabinet decision on **Development Cooperation Charter**



Background

- ◆ **Development challenges are more diverse, complex, and widespread**
=> **Extend the scope of cooperation**
(Internal disparity, sustainability, governance, rule of law, "middle income trap", fragility, ODA graduated countries' issues)
- ◆ **Increasing role of funds and activities other than ODA for development of developing countries**
=> **Necessity of collaboration** (between ODA and private sectors, NGOs, OOF, PKO, etc)
- ◆ **Globalization => Need for international cooperation including developing countries to ensure peace and prosperity**

Change of name

ODA Charter



Development Cooperation Charter

Main points of Development Cooperation Charter

- ◆ **Philosophy of Japan's Development cooperation** => **Proactive contribution to the peace, stability, prosperity**
 - ✓ As peace-loving nation, contribute to the world through **cooperation for non-military purposes**
 - ✓ **Human security** (Focus on individuals and cooperation for their protection and empowerment)
 - ✓ Collaboration with developing countries in **equal partnership**
- ◆ **Development cooperation in a new era** => **Toward post 2015 development agenda**
 - ✓ **"Quality growth"** (**inclusiveness, sustainability, resilience**) and poverty eradication through such growth
= Foundation of economic growth (e.g. infrastructure, human resources), overcoming vulnerability (human development, social development) , inclusiveness(e.g. reduce disparity, empowerment of women, governance), sustainability (e.g. environmental issues, climate change), resilience(e.g. disaster risk reduction)
 - ✓ **Sharing universal values** and realizing **a peaceful and secure society** as the foundations for development
= Rule of law, good governance, basic human rights, democratization, peacebuilding, capacity building of law enforcement , anti-terrorism
 - ✓ **ODA graduated countries with special vulnerabilities** ("middle income trap", climate change etc.)
- ◆ **Development cooperation as catalyst** => **Partnership with private sectors**
 - ✓ **Public-private partnerships, partnerships with local governments**, partnerships with NGO/CSO
- ◆ **Participation of diverse actors in development** => **To realize inclusive and equitable development**
 - ✓ Promotion of women's participation, promotion of participation of concerned actors including vulnerable groups





(1) Objectives of development cooperation

- Japan will promote development cooperation in order to **contribute more proactively to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.**
- ODA, as the **core of various activities** that contribute to development, will serve as **a catalyst for mobilizing a wide range of resources** in cooperation with various funds and actors and, by extension, as **an engine for various activities aimed at securing peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.**

(2) Basic policies

A. Contributing to peace and prosperity through cooperation for non-military purposes

- Japan's development cooperation, **has contributed to peace and prosperity of the world through cooperation for non-military purposes**, has been highly regarded by the international community as an embodiment of the country's sincere aspirations for peace and prosperity as a peace – loving nation.
- Japan will continue to **comply with the principle of avoiding any use of development cooperation for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts** in proactively contributing to securing peace, stability and prosperity of the international community.



B. Promoting human security

- Human security is **the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan's development cooperation.**
- Japan will thus focus its development cooperation on individuals - **especially those liable to be vulnerable** - and provide **cooperation for their protection and empowerment** so as to realize human security.
- Japan will also proactively contribute to **promoting basic human rights, including women's rights.**

C. Cooperation aimed at self-reliant development through assistance for self-help efforts as well as dialogue and collaboration based on Japan's experience and expertise

- Japan will continue to **emphasize the developing countries' own initiatives and self-help efforts.** Japan will support **their efforts for self-reliant development.**
- Japan will attach importance to building the foundations of self-help efforts and self-reliant development such as **human resources, socio-economic infrastructure, regulations and institutions.**
- It will also go beyond waiting for requests from partner countries by **focusing on dialogue and collaboration**, including proactively presenting proposals.

(1) Priority issues

A. “Quality growth” and poverty eradication through such growth

- For fragile states, Japan will provide both **assistance from a humanitarian point of view and assistance designed to set the development process in motion and overcome vulnerability.**
- In order to resolve the poverty issue in a sustainable manner, it is essential to **achieve economic growth** through human resources development, infrastructure development and establishment of regulations and institutions as well as the growth of the private sector. Such growth should be **“quality growth” (Inclusive, Sustainable, Resilient).** Japan will **take advantage of its own experience, expertise and technology as well as lessons** learned in order to provide assistance to realize it.
- From this perspective, Japan will provide **assistance necessary to secure the foundations and the driving force for economic growth** as well as **assistance necessary to promote people-centered development** that supports basic human life, taking full account of the importance of human and social development.



B. Sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society

- Stable development through "quality growth" will not be achieved unless **the rights of individuals are guaranteed, people can engage in economic and social activities with a sense of safety, and the society is managed equitably and stably.**
- With a view to **solidifying the foundations for such development,** Japan will provide assistance so as to **share universal values and realize a peaceful, stable and secure society.**
 - **Universal values:** The establishment of the rule of law, the realization of good governance, the promotion and consolidation of democratization, and respect for basic human rights including women's, etc.
 - **Peaceful, stable and secure society:** peacebuilding, emergency humanitarian relief(e.g. disaster relief), fight against threats to stability and security(e.g. maritime safety, terrorism, global commons)

C. Building a sustainable and resilient international community through efforts to address global challenges

- Global challenges cannot be dealt with by a single country. Taking full account of the discussions regarding international development goals such as **the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Post-2015 Development Agenda,** Japan will seek to contribute to building **a sustainable and resilient international community.**

(2) Priority policy issues by region

- Japan will provide cooperation in a strategic, effective and agile manner in catering to the needs and characteristics of each region (i.e. ASEAN, South Asia, Central Asia and the Caucasus, Africa, Middle East, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, Oceania, the Caribbean and other regions).
- Attention will be paid **to moves toward regional integration, efforts at the regional level, region- wide development, strengthening inter-regional connectivity,** etc.
- Japan will extend **necessary cooperation to countries that, despite progress in development, are laden with various development challenges as well as small island countries and others that are faced with special vulnerabilities despite having attained a certain level of per capita income, based on their actual development needs and affordability.**



A. Principles for effective and efficient development cooperation

(a) A more strategic approach

- Japan will formulate strategic and effective policies and goals of development cooperation based on its foreign policy.
- Japan will enhance **synergies between ODA and non-ODA finance/cooperation**.
- Japan will conduct evaluations at the policy and program/project levels and feed the results back to the decision-making and program/project implementation processes.

(b) Cooperation that takes advantage of Japan's strengths

- Japan will proactively adopt **proposals from private sectors**. An integrated approach, **including physical infrastructure and non-physical aspects such as systems, human resources, institutions, etc.** will enable active utilization of **Japan's experience and expertise**.

(c) Proactive contribution to international discussion

B. Principles for securing the appropriateness of development cooperation

(a) Situation regarding consolidation of democratization, the rule of law and the protection of basic human rights

(b) Avoidance of any use of development cooperation for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts

- Japan will avoid any use of development cooperation for military purposes or for aggravation of international conflicts. **In case armed forces or members of armed forces in recipient countries are involved in development cooperation for non-military purposes such as public welfare or disaster-relief purposes, such cases will be considered on a case-by-case basis in light of its substantive relevance.**

(c) Situation regarding military expenditures, development and production of weapons of mass destruction and missiles, and export and import of arms, etc. (d) Impact of development on the environment and climate change, (e) Ensuring equity and consideration to the socially vulnerable, (f) Promoting women's participation, (g) Preventing fraud and corruption, (h) Security and safety of development cooperation personnel

(2) Implementation arrangement

A. Improvement of the implementation architecture of the government and the implementing agencies

B. Strengthening partnerships

(a) Public-private partnerships and partnerships with local governments

- Japan will promote development cooperation through public-private partnerships, by **utilizing the resources of the private sector and local governments and promoting private-led growth**, in order to support economic development of developing countries more vigorously and effectively.
- Japan's development cooperation will seek to serve as **a catalyst for expanding economic activities, while utilizing excellent technology and expertise, and ample funds of the private sector for** addressing the challenges faced by developing countries.
- Partnerships with **small and medium enterprises, local governments, and universities and research institutions** will be strengthened.

(b) Coordination in emergency humanitarian assistance and international peace cooperation

- Japan will promote coordination with international organizations and NGOs and coordination with PKOs.

(c) Partnerships with international, regional and sub-regional organizations,

(d) Partnerships with donors, emerging countries and other actors, (e) Partnership with the civil society

C. Strengthening the foundations for implementation

- (a) Information disclosure and promoting understanding of the public and the international community, (b) Promoting development education, (c) Developing human resources and solidifying the intellectual foundations for development cooperation

