In November 2019, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and Medical Excellence JAPAN (MEJ) welcomed delegates from Africa is the First Africa-Japan Public-Private Joint Mission (PPM) which held in Tokyo with an aim of establishing new partnerships, sharing experiences and building awareness and visibility of Japanese medical devices, services and technologies. The African delegation consisted of the representatives from both the Public and Private sectors of three countries, the Republic of South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, and the Republic of Kenya.

**Activities**

**Forum**

On November 5, the Africa-Japan Public-Private Joint Mission Forum was held at the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan). In his keynote address, the CEO of MEJ, Dr. Kondo, presented the patient-centric policy and the basic guidelines for conducting “Rational Medicine Initiatives” through the practice of “Regulatory Science.” Under the overall theme “Contributing Towards Universal Health Coverage(UHC),” two sessions were held. During the morning session titled “Effective Public-Private Partnership (PPP) from Public Sector Perspective,” representatives from Tanzania and Kenya shared an overview of the current public health situation and public private partnerships from their countries. During the afternoon session titled “Role of Private Sector in UHC Achievement”, private sector champions from the three countries representatives shared their knowledge, opportunities and challenges of doing healthcare business in Africa with the audience.

**Networking Lunch and Device Exhibition**

6 Japanese companies has the opportunity to showcase their healthcare technologies and solutions to the Africa delegation. The showcase was an opportunity to identify potential channels of engaging both the public and private sectors to build the Africa-Japan health business relationship. The exhibition took place during the networking lunch at the same venue.

Delegates explored the ER and Education systems at TMUI, Hospital operations and activities of the International Medical Cooperation Bureau at NCGM, and the divine surgical technique of ESD (Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection) at KIEO. The fact finding tour and knowledge sharing experiences were a key highlight for the Africa delegation to recognize the unique system of capacity building and hospital operations, the importance of early detection and treatment, Japan’s medical contributions to the continent.

In the afternoon, the delegates visited Terumo Corporation’s medical training facility (Terumo Medical Pranex) in Kanagawa Prefecture and toured the facility. Lively discussions on capacity building and simulation training for medical systems were held.

The delegates pays courtesy call on METI and meeting with JGA.

On the morning of November 7th, the delegates paid a courtesy call to METI. The Director of the Healthcare Industry Division; Mr. Nishikawa presented on the issues and solutions for an aging society, and from the Planning Officer of Cabinet Secretariat Medical Strategy Office; Mr. Sasaki on the principle of Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative. During the session, delegates from Africa and Japan promoted intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding of future synergies and co-operations.

Subsequently, at the meeting with the Japan Generic Pharmaceutical Association (JGA), the International Activities of the Japanese Generic Pharmaceutical companies and the activities of Ohara Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. in Africa were introduced, and lively opinion exchanges were made regarding the general conditions of the pharmaceutical markets of the three countries.

**Visits to 3 hospitals in Tokyo and Terumo Medical Pranex**

On the morning of November 6, the delegates visited three hospitals each country separately; Tokyo Medical University Hospital (TMUI), National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), and Keio University Hospital (KEIO) for facility tours and exchange of opinions.

**Government Agencies**

METI/Cabinet Secretariat(CAS)/Japan International Cooperation Agency/the South African Embassy in Japan/Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania in Japan/Embassy of the Republic of Kenya in Japan

**Affiliate groups/Speakers**

Japan Generic Medicines Association(JGA)/Africa Health Business/Professor of Department of International Affairs and Tropical Medicine at Tokyo Woman’s Medical University School of Medicine, Dr. Tomohiko Sugishita/Representative for Africa at TOKUSHUKAI GENERAL INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION, Dr. Milanga Mwanamatwe