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سفارة اليابان بالسودان
ص.ب. 1649
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**Japan contributes 500,000 USD to
Support the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP)**

The Government of Japan contributes 500,000 USD from a part of Japan's additional funding in FY 2013 (April 2013 - March 2014) to the AU High-level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) on Sudan and South Sudan to assist both contributes with their democratic transformation and facilitate negotiations towards political solutions of the conflicted areas. This contribution is a part of a 5 million USD contribution from the Government of Japan to support the African Union's efforts in addressing pressing issues in areas of peace and security through the AU Peace Fund, which is a follow-up to the announcement by H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan at the African Union's Headquarters on 14 January 2014 to provide approximately USD 320 million to respond to conflicts and natural disasters in Africa.

Japan has been providing financial support to the AU Peace Fund since 1996. Since the beginning of our support for the AU Peace Fund, Japan has contributed approximately USD 6.4 million, all the while emphasizing the importance of AU's ownership, in other words, African Solutions to African Problems.

Japan regards the AUHIP as the main pillar in addressing the remaining issues between Sudan and South Sudan. Since the AUHIP was mandated in 2009 to assist the CPA partners, the ideology of AUHIP in negotiations goes in line with Japan's concrete ideology that peace and stability can only be realized through negotiations and not military solutions.

H.E. Mr. Ryoichi Horie, Ambassador of Japan to Sudan, said that Japan is committed to make its utmost efforts to achieve lasting peace and stability in Sudan which is of great importance to the region, affirming that peace, stability and development in Sudan will contribute to those of Africa as a whole. He commended the tireless efforts of the AUHIP and the valuable role the IGAD and called upon them to continue assisting Sudan and South Sudan in their efforts to resolve the disputed issues. He added that "there are common interests between Sudan and South Sudan as both countries can benefit from the natural resources and exchange of trade. I believe in a peaceful and prosperous relationship between the two countries and Japan has been considering ways to contribute to promoting this relationship".

Japan believes that this contribution will support the ongoing efforts to address the disputes between Sudan and South Sudan and will play a role in realizing peace in the African continent.

(End)