

Development Finance Workshop in Japan
Speech on the Farewell Party by Mr. Takashi Ando, JERI
(April 24, 2013)

Thank you for the introduction. I am Takashi Ando, president of JERI. I would like to make some remarks.

It is my great honor to host a farewell party for the participants of Development Finance Workshop.

JERI is a strategic subsidiary of DBJ, and conducting research covering both Japan and abroad. JERI considers the international cooperation as one of the core businesses and has conducted development studies and technical assistance contracted mainly with JICA. The areas of study include finance, industry, and infrastructure.

In that sense, it is a very good opportunity for us to use our accumulated experience and knowledge fully on this JICA study with an objective to building up capacities of the development banks in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Namibia, which are improving its infrastructure.

Especially, this 10-days workshop is very important part of this study. We provided programs incorporating the needs and requests from your organizations.

We definitely provided lectures about development banks and infrastructure in Japan, and also you had opportunities to visit facilities of water supply and electric power as Japanese case studies. Also, we invited two lecturers from the Philippines and Malaysia providing Asian experiences in infrastructure from the view point of South-South cooperation between Africa and Asia. I believe these programs including the panel discussion today will be of great value for you.

I have heard that most of you come to Japan for the first time. How is your stay in Japan? I am sure it is important to learn in the classroom but to see the actual infrastructure in Japan is also a must.

The infrastructure we can be proud of in particular is a train system. I know some of you have got PASMO and take trains such as JR and subways. I am convinced the

technology and system of the train could be a clue to your system. Japan is a mature country but still, we keep trying to improve ourselves including infrastructure.

Today is the last day of the workshop but this project will run until September in this year. And TICAD V will be held in Yokohama at the beginning of June. We will keep trying to discuss with JICA how we can build up the cooperative relationship with you further based on the outcome of the conference. I hope we will keep in touch with each other even after this project.

Finally, I hope you will have a safe trip to home this weekend, and I wish you the best of your work and your life upon your return. Thank you very much.