

## Japan and FDRE-PSTC co-organize Post Conflict Recovery Course

On 26 October 2015, the Government of Japan, together with the Federal Republic Democratic of Ethiopia – Peace Support Training Centre (FDRE-PSTC) held an Opening Ceremony Post Conflict Recovery Course which they co-organized at the Panorama hotel. This 12 day course (26 October to 6 November) is the third course FDRE-PSTC, which uses its own curriculum, and it focuses on the components of Protection of Civilian, International Humanitarian Law, Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration, Economic Development. High ranking military officials from 5 countries (TBD), namely Burundi, Djibouti, Rwanda, Tanzania and Sudan will also participate in this course as students.

In his opening remarks on 26 October, Mr. Kenji Yokota, Deputy Head of Mission of Japan to Ethiopia, on behalf of H.E. Mr. Kazuhiro Suzuki, Ambassador of Japan to Ethiopia, expressed his belief that the Post Conflict Recovery Course will benefit the realization of not only an improvement in the capacity of regional Peacekeeping Operation troops, but also the concept of the African Standby Force.

Mr. Kenji Yokota reiterated his country's proactive cooperation maintain international peace and security. "Last month in New York, Japanese Prime Minister Abe announced at the second Leader's Summit on Peacekeeping that Japan would further contribute to Peacekeeping operations. In response to the need for the rapid deployment of PKOs, especially in Africa, Japan has supported the U.N. Project for African Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities (ARDEC), a pioneering project of the triangular partnership model. To fund it, Japan has contributed approximately 40 million USD to the United Nations Secretariat. Engineering unit personnel from East African Troop Contributing Countries and Japan Ground Self-Defense Forces have labored together in Nairobi, Kenya, conducting a trial training course on the operation and maintenance of heavy engineering equipment".

Commending Ethiopia's role in the field of peace and security in the world and Africa, Mr. Yokota recalled the inauguration of the FDRE-PSTC by Ethiopia this year to enhance the regional standby capacity of military, police and civilian ex

perts for peacekeeping and peace-building missions.

Since 2012, Japan support the establishment of the FDRE-PSTC by providing 940,000 USD for the construction of the Centre's theatre building, the development of curriculum for courses, and for technical cooperation through assigning a Japan Self-Defense Force official to the FDRE-PSTC.

The curriculum for this course was designed by the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force officer, Lieutenant Colonel Mr. Norihisa Urakami, who is also the International Consultant in charge of facilitating the course at the FDRE-PSTC.

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