## **Signing Ceremony of**

## "The Project for Promoting Climate-resilient Agricultural Management through Farmers Field School in the Conflict-affected Communities in Northern Regions" (FAO Partnership)

On Tuesday 25 February 2025, at the Ministry of Agriculture in Addis Ababa, Ambassador SHIBATA, together with Ms Zimudzi, Representative of FAO Ethiopia and Mr OSHIMA Kensuke, Chief Representative in JICA Ethiopia Office, participated in the signing ceremony of "The Project for Promoting Climate-resilient Agricultural Management through Farmers Field School in the Conflict-affected Communities in Northern Regions" (FAO partnership). The ceremony was witnessed by Dr Girma, the Minister of Agriculture on behalf of the Ethiopian Government.

The Government of Japan will provide approximately 1.1-billion-yen (approximately USD 7.2 million) to FAO for the aforementioned project working with the Ministry of Agriculture and the targeted regional governments of Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions. This project will support small scale farmers in the conflict-affected areas with practical trainings in the field in small groups, using the extension method called Farmers Field School (FFS), which disseminate knowledge and skills in crop cultivation and post-harvest management to adopt climate change. It will also repair irrigation system destroyed in the conflict and help improve productivity. The project is expected to increase the income and quality of lives of approximately 27,700 farmers.

At the ceremony, Ambassador SHIBATA said, "Japan has positioned agriculture, which employs 70 per cent of Ethiopia's working population and accounts for 35 per cent of GDP, as one of the priority areas of assistance to Ethiopia. In recent years, Japan's support in the sector has three major pillars of 'investment in people', 'small scale farmers' 'self-reliance and market-oriented agriculture' and 'rice production', and this project is one of them. Japan will continue to support the agricultural sector, which is one of Ethiopia's key industries."



Ambassador SHIBATA sharing the views with Dr Grima, Minister of Agriculture



Exchange of the signed notes between Ambassador SHIBATA and

Ms Zimudzi, Representative in FAO Ethiopia



(From left) Ambassador SHIBATA, Dr Grima, Minister of Agriculture,

Ms Zimudzi FAO Representative, and Mr Oshima, JICA Chief Representative



Group photo of people involved in this project.