

## **Launching Ceremony for Japan's TICAD Supplementary Budget for the “Project for Strengthening Agricultural Monitoring and Advisory Systems (SAMAS)” in the Somali Region of Ethiopia.**

On 22 July, 2025, Ambassador SHIBATA participated in a launching ceremony for the “Project for Strengthening Agricultural Monitoring and Advisory Systems (SAMAS)” in the Somali National regional state, organised by WFP, together with NEC, a Japanese multinational information technology and electronics corporation. The project is supported under TICAD (Tokyo International Conference on African Development) Supplementary Budget. The ceremony took place in Jigjiga, capital city of Somali region, in the presence of Mr. Zlatan Milišić, WFP Country Director in Ethiopia and Mr. KOIDE Yosuke, General Manager of Global Synergy Creation at NEC XON and representatives of the relevant regional bureaus of Somali region.

Through the TICAD initiative the government of Japan has provided grant assistance of USD 1.5 million for WFP to strengthen Agricultural Monitoring and Advisory Systems by introducing digital solutions aimed at addressing farmers' information gaps in six districts in the Somali region, namely Gode, East Imey, Dolo Ado, Dolobay, Bokolomayo and Adadile.

TICAD 9 is scheduled to be held in Yokohama from August 20th to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2025, with African heads of states, under the slogan “Co-create innovative solutions with Africa”.

