



**Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize
Prix Hideyo Noguchi pour l'Afrique
NEWS LETTER**

No.5 May 2011

To all victims and all their families who suffered from the Great East Earthquake, March 2011

We cordially express our condolence for them.

From Staffs of Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Unit, Cabinet Office

Visit Japan by Dr. Miriam Were, Chairperson, National AIDS Control Council of Kenya (the Laureate of the 1st Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Medical Services Category)



*Dr. Were (left)
and Ms. Kikuta,
Parliamentary
Vice-Minister
for Foreign
Affairs (Right)*

Dr. Were stayed in Japan from 17 February to 22 February, and participated in a lot of events. Dr. Were paid a courtesy visit to Ms. Kikuta, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs in Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 18 February (the photo above). Ms. Kikuta expressed her respect and gratitude for Dr. Were for her activities such as the spread of the spirits of Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize and the revitalization of the prize. Furthermore, Ms. Kikuta asked Dr. Were for the cooperation in regard to events related to Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize. Dr. Were replied to Ms. Kikuta, that she appreciated for the Japanese Government's support for Africa, and would like to make efforts to respond to expectations by the Japanese government. As for other topic, Ms. Kikuta mentioned Dr. Were's efforts to develop public lavatories, and introduced the Japanese song, "The Venus of a toilet" which was a great hit last year, and presented a CD of the song to Dr. Were with the English translation. Dr. Were replied that she would spread this song in Kenya.

On 21 February, Dr. Were was conferred the title of an honorary doctorate in Ochanomizu University (the photos beneath). This honorary doctorate's award to Dr. Were was honored as a model of Ochanomizu University's activities in praise of achievements and contributions to social activities by Dr. Were. This ceremony for conferment took place as a part of projects, "The Establishment of network for the Peacebuilding in the Global Society" conducted by Ochanomizu University Global Cooperation Center. After the ceremony, Dr. Were gave the memorial lecture, "Live Together – Talking with Dr. Miriam Were". Dr. Were told that the building of the global network including Japan through the community and a grass-roots movement is indispensable for the realization of peace in Africa where many conflicts occur. Students asked a lot of questions to Dr. Were such as a role as a woman and the importance of community activities, and they had an active discussion. In the end, all participants including Dr. Were stood up and ended up the event with singing Kenyan song with their hands. This event reminded us a warm solidarity between Africa and Japan as a first step to realize the "living together" society.

Furthermore on 22 February, an open seminar, "Community Health in Africa – MCH, Health Systems, Community Empowerment—" took place in JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) Global Plaza. Based on her long experiences and techniques she acquired, Dr. Were intelligibly gave a lecture to the audience why people's empowerment in the community is necessary, and the effects and methods for the change of mindset change in regard to the medical health care system in African community.

After the lecture, Dr. Were had a talk with Ms. Sadako Ogata, President of JICA at JICA headquarters. Dr. Were made a proposal to JICA for the importance of community health care for pregnant women, nursing mothers, newly-born infants and children, as well as for the reinforcement of the cooperation with JICA in the fields of medical health care in a policy aspect. Furthermore, they suggested to take measures on the basis of on-the-spot point of view by community health worker on the side of the human security, and they agreed to the idea that they would take inclusive community health care approaches not only for pregnant women, nursing mothers, newly-born infants and children, but also for the students health care in the school and elder care in community. As for other activities, Dr. Were attended at the conference on maternal and child health handbook, meeting of the international scholarly society for voluntary action, and etc..



The Second Africa London Nagasaki Scholarship



Dr. Green Wood is the third from the left in the front row.

On 9 February, Dr. Brian Greenwood, a laureate of the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize by the Japanese Government in 2008, welcomed Envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary Hitoshi Noda, being in place of the Ambassador, Mr. Keiichi Hayashi at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). Dr. Greenwood explained him the decision on the second award of the 2011 Africa London Nagasaki Scholarships he had established. They visited the laboratory related to Malaria, and had a discussion.

This scholarship is very popular among young African students who are after specialists in the field of a contagious disease such as Malaria. Though there were 486 applicants at the first Africa London Nagasaki Scholarship (5 awards), 857 people applied to the scholarship without a great scale announcement for the application for the scholarship. The successful applicants are Bassirou Diarra of Mali and Preston Izulla of Kenya, both of whom will be based in Nagasaki. Other successful applicants are Dodji Ange Dossou of Benin and Nicholas Musunguzi of Uganda, who will be based at LSHTM, and Dorothy Sebikari of Uganda who will be studying at LSHTM via distance learning.

As this scholarship makes good use of a reward of Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize, the scholarship will end up in 5th scholarship unless there would be additional funds.

(Mr. Peter Piot, Director of LSHTM and a number of staffs related to Japan were present. Japanese delegates included Economic Minister Mr. Hiroshi Oka, and Mr. Tomohiko Arai, First Secretary (Science and Technology) other than Mr. Hitoshi Noda. Attending from the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science were Professor Kozo Hiramatsu, Director, and Mr. Takeshi Sekiguchi, Deputy Director.)

(Dr. Greenwood has established Africa London Nagasaki Scholarships in order to train African young scientists in the field of an infectious disease, public health and the tropical medicine, utilizing Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize award of one hundred millions yen (≒ 8 hundred thousand dollars). Awards enable them to undertake MSc at the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nagasaki University, Japan or at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London, UK. Up to four awards will be conferred each year for the period from 2010 to 2014. Successful applicants will receive a maximum of US\$50,000 each to cover tuition fees, travel and living expenses. The first Africa London Nagasaki Scholarship was announced in the occasion of the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Memorial Symposium held in Accra, Ghana, 9 March 2010.

About LSHTM (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)

1 LSHTM is a world famous research laboratory ranking with Harvard University (US) and Johns Hopkins University (US) in the field of hygienic tropical medicine. In particular, LSHTM is evaluated in the research on Malaria as No.1 in the world.

2 LSHTM receives support not only from the state but also from charitable institutions (The Wellcome Trust, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, etc.) for the purpose of expenditures for education and research in LSHTM. The donation plays a great role in training African students. Recently, 33 out of 35 African researchers who had finished PhD course in LSHTM came back to Africa. A lot of scientists who obtained PhD tend to continue to research in the US. However, LSHTM cases show good results for LSHTM that would like to deepen cooperation with Africans and to continually contribute to African public health.

3 LSHTM ties up with Japanese Universities or Japanese research laboratories such as Tokyo University, Kyoto University, Nagasaki University, and etc. Furthermore, LSHTM has a network with Japanese scientists who research in Karolinska institute (Sweden) and in Kenya.

LSHTM has an idea of deepening a cooperation with JAPAN. About 10 Japanese students come to LSHTM for research every year, but LSHTM feels the difficulty of broadening the network by depending on Japanese students.

With regard to this matter, Prof. Hiramatsu, Director of the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) introduced that JSPS has a scheme to back up a systematic symposium held between the British universities/institutes and the Japanese universities/institutes in support of British researchers who have experienced a research utilizing JSPS fellowship. He mentioned that if there are researchers who have experienced such research at LSHTM, they would be able to make use of this scheme. JSPS is capable of offering information on alumni association database of JSPS London.

DONNATION TO HIDEYO NOGUCHI AFRICA PRIZE (MARCH 2011)

*472, 294, 972YEN [INDIVIDUAL:1878, CORPORATION OR FOUNDATION 318
(TOTAL 2, 196)]*

Thank you very much for your donation.

We would like to inform you that our office has been relocated from 1st April, 2011.

The address and phone number of our new office are as follows.

New Address : 1-11-39 Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0014, Japan.

Phone Number: +81-3-5501-1745