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Japan Institute for Health Security

Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS) and Africa CDC Sign Cooperation Agreement to Strengthen Global Health Security

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | 5 March 2026 – The Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS) and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) to strengthen bilateral collaboration in health security, infectious disease control, research, and public health capacity development.

The agreement was simultaneously signed in Tokyo by Professor Dr. Norihiro Kokudo, President of JIHS, and in Addis Ababa by H.E. Dr. Jean Kaseya, Director General of Africa CDC. It establishes a framework for enhanced cooperation to address emerging and re-emerging public health threats and to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response. The partnership will promote closer collaboration in infectious disease surveillance and early warning systems, laboratory and research capacity, and coordinated responses to public health emergencies. It will also support workforce development through structured training programs, institutional exchanges, and technical collaboration aimed at strengthening resilient public health institutions. The collaboration will also advance One Health and climate-resilient approaches to address zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and other emerging risks.

“JIHS was established as an integrated national institution combining infectious disease intelligence, research and development, clinical expertise, and international cooperation,” said Professor Dr. Norihiro Kokudo, President of JIHS. “Through this partnership with Africa CDC, we look forward to expanding joint research, strengthening workforce development, and building practical collaboration that contributes to regional and global health security.”

“Health threats cross borders, and preparedness depends on strong partnerships,” said Dr. Jean Kaseya, Director General of Africa CDC. “This cooperation with JIHS will strengthen scientific collaboration, reinforce public health institutions and workforce capacity, and accelerate our ability to prevent, detect, and respond to outbreaks.”

The cooperation reflects a shared commitment to strengthening science-based preparedness and fostering mutual learning between institutions, researchers, clinicians, and public health professionals from Africa and Japan.

The collaboration supports Africa CDC’s Strategic Plan (2023-2027) and the Africa Health Security and Sovereignty (AHSS) Agenda. The partners will operationalize the agreement through a Joint Action Plan that will define priority activities, timelines, and implementation mechanisms.



About JIHS

The Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS) is Japan's national institution dedicated to strengthening preparedness and response to infectious diseases and other health threats. Established through the integration of Japan's National Institute of Infectious Diseases (NIID) and the National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), JIHS functions as an integrated science center combining infectious disease intelligence, research and development, clinical capabilities, and international cooperation. For more information, visit: <https://www.jihs.go.jp/index.en.html> and follow JIHS on X and YouTube.

About Africa CDC

The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) is the public health agency of the African Union. As an autonomous institution, Africa CDC supports AU Member States to strengthen health systems, improve disease surveillance, and enhance emergency preparedness and response. For more information, visit: <http://www.africacdc.org> and follow Africa CDC on LinkedIn, X, Facebook, and YouTube.

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