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Firm urges workers to eat and drink less to work into later life **BUSINESS, PAGE 6**



DREAMING BIG IN A NEW COUNTRY

Non-Japanese students tell of overcoming language, financial hurdles **NATIONAL, PAGE 3**



IN TODAY'S INYT:

**RUBIO AIMS
TO HALT RISE
OF CRUZ**
PAGE 7



MARKETS: TOPIX 1,585.21 ↑ 11.19 | NIKKEI 225 19,698.15 ↑ 193.67 | DOW* 17,847.63 ↑ 369.96 | NASDAQ* 5,142.27 ↑ 104.74 (*Friday close)

TOKYO FOREIGN EXCHANGE (Monday 5 p.m.): **¥/\$ 123.28 ↓ 0.51** | **¥/€ 133.85 ↓ 0.36** | **\$/€ 1.0857 ↑ 0.0015**

Venus probe makes second try

Akatsuki returns for another bid at orbit following JAXA failure in 2010

KYODO

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency made a second attempt Monday morning to put the Akatsuki probe into orbit around Venus, five years after a problem with the main engine thwarted the first try.

"It is very much expected to enter the planned orbit," JAXA professor Masato Nakamura, who is in charge of the Akatsuki program, said at a news conference after the agency confirmed that Akatsuki's equipment, in-

cluding communications, was still functioning properly after a four-thruster burn went as planned.

With the nozzle of the probe's main engine apparently wrecked, JAXA reprogrammed Akatsuki to use four thrusters for an attitude-control burn to send it into an elliptical orbit of up to 300,000 km and eight to nine days long around Venus, giving it two years to observe the planet's meteorological phenomena.

Officials confirmed that

communications with Akatsuki were normal after the 20-minute burn that started at 8:51 a.m., eliciting applause from the control room at JAXA's Sagami-hara Campus in Kanagawa Prefecture.

JAXA won't be able to confirm whether the maneuver succeeded until Wednesday, when it will make an announcement.

Carrying six types of observation equipment, Akatsuki is designed to study the thick clouds shrouding Venus in three dimensions and how its strong winds, estimated to be faster than 360 kph, cause an atmospheric phenomenon known as super-rotation, in

which the atmosphere rotates much faster than the planet.

But the probe will not be able to collect as much data as initially intended because it will be circling the planet at a much higher altitude than envisioned under its originally planned orbit time of 30 hours, which it was unable to achieve in December 2010.

The probe was launched in May 2010 by an H-IIA rocket. After failing to achieve orbit around Venus, JAXA let the probe orbit the sun and adjusted its path in 2011 and this year to prepare for Monday's second attempt. Despite being exposed to more heat and radiation from the sun than it

was designed to withstand, no damage has so far been detected to Akatsuki's equipment.

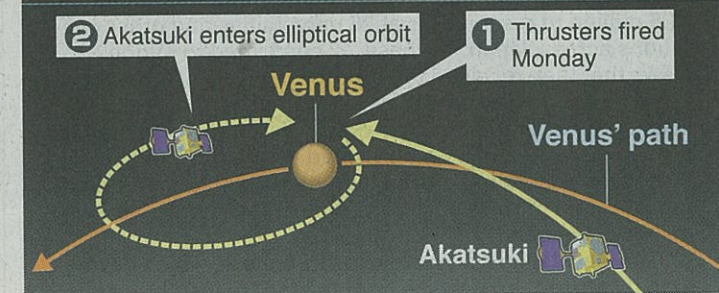
Akatsuki's second mission is being driven by its 35-year-old female chief researcher, who discovered a way to swing the probe into orbit.

"I didn't expect it to be so hard," said JAXA's Chikako Hirose.

The failure of the first Akatsuki mission was announced just a few months after Hirose had been transferred from Tsukuba Space Center, JAXA's headquarters in Ibaraki Prefecture, to the Sagami-hara Campus, where the Akatsuki team is based.

Hirose, a specialist in orbit-

Best-case scenario



KYODO GRAPHIC

determination for space debris, was assigned to a team charged with calculating and adjusting the trajectory for inserting the orbiter. In their initial calculations, the probe would always crash into the planet however they did it.

But after 2½ years of deliberating day and night and "not attending" to her husband, she found a solution to the problem and developed a way

to insert the pesky probe into orbit.

Hirose married in 2011 and had her first child in 2013, returning to work a year later after maternity leave — just in time for the orbital insertion.

"It's been a long time since the first attempt five years ago, but those years have passed quickly," Hirose said. "It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Man held for killing baby with stimulants

Kumamoto
KYODO

A 24-year-old man is under arrest for allegedly killing his girlfriend's baby by feeding him a fatal dose of a *kakuseizai* stimulant drug in a hotel in the city of Kumamoto, police officials said.

The Kumamoto Prefectural Police arrested Tensho Yoshimura on Sunday on suspicion of murder and violation of the Stimulants Control Law, investigative sources said.

The police suspect Yoshimura, a resident of Mashiki, Kumamoto Prefecture, who is not thought to be the baby's father, took the drug himself and then administered it to the baby.

Kakuseizai covers a group of addictive stimulant drugs in-

Lawsuit over cooked books comes amid record ¥7.37 billion fine

Toshiba shareholders sue

BURYING THE HATCHET



to the prime minister once a year, currently there is no prospect that such a report will be delivered anytime soon. It also must be pointed out that the oversight bodies are not empowered to enforce the declassification of secrets even if they determine that they were unjustifiably designated as such.

The protection of officials who report wrongful designations of secrets is also insufficient. Although hotlines have been established under the law for whistleblowers to raise alerts, they are allowed only to summarize the information they think has been inappropriately classified. If their summaries are judged to include crucial or a major part of the classified information, they could be charged with leaking the secrets. Such a system would only discourage officials from revealing wrongful acts.

Each chamber of the Diet has a board of oversight and review of state secrets. As of the end of June, the Defense Ministry and nine other organizations had designated 417 pieces of information as state secrets. The government submitted a

agencies in 460 others.

In Japan, the state secret law does not accord to citizens the right to seek the declassification of state secrets. A Freedom of Information Law exists, but it is difficult for citizens to utilize it because a meaningful summary list of information designated as state secrets is not publicly available. If citizens make a disclosure request under the law, the probability is high that the government will reject it on the grounds that the disclosure would damage the nation's security or diplomatic interests. If citizens turn to the courts to seek the disclosure of information, it would be extremely difficult for them to win because the law does not give courts the authority to review classified documents.

The Diet should either drastically revise the state secret law to fix these serious flaws, including creating a system allowing citizens to seek the disclosure of classified documents, or abolish the law and begin discussions from scratch on checks and balances concerning the handling of state secrets.

Forest protection efforts need to be refocused

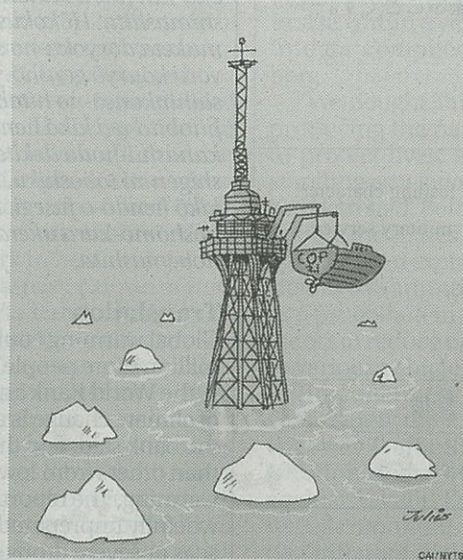
Jutta Kill
Berlin

It's been 30 years since the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations launched the Tropical Forestry Action Plan, the first global intergovernmental initiative to halt forest loss. Since then, deforestation has continued unabated, and the latest international effort to stop it — an initiative known as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) — looks no more likely to be effective. Far from protecting the world's forests, the most notable outcome of these two agreements has been, ironically, the production of reams of expensive consultancy reports.

REDD+ was created as part of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the agreement governing its implementation is expected to be finalized during the U.N. Conference on Climate Change in Paris. But if world leaders are serious about halting forest loss, they should instead abandon REDD+ and replace it with a mechanism that addresses the underlying drivers of large-scale deforestation.

The flaws in REDD+ are evident in how it approaches the problem it is meant to solve. The vast majority of its projects treat forest peoples and peasant farmers as the main agents of deforestation. REDD project developers seem to be especially fond of projects that focus on restricting traditional farming practices, even as they shy away from efforts to tackle the true causes of deforestation: the expansion of industrial agriculture, massive infrastructure projects, large-scale logging, and out-of-control consumption.

These shortcomings are exemplified in the Socio Bosque Program, a REDD+ initiative in Ecuador, in which efforts to control forest communities and peasant farming overlook the far larger potential damage caused by industrial activity. Under the program, forest-dependent communities sign five-year agreements with the Ministry of Environment, agreeing to restrict forest use in return for small cash payments. At the same time, the program's documentation explicitly nullifies the agreement if the



area under its jurisdiction becomes slated for oil exploitation or mining. Today, peasant farmers are being barred from forests as part of the fight against climate change; tomorrow, the same forests could be uprooted in order to allow companies to extract the fossil fuels that are the underlying cause of the problem.

There is a disturbing rationale for this myopic focus on peasants and forest people and for the prominence of this approach on the agendas of international agencies and climate negotiators. REDD+, it turns out, has less to do with stopping forest loss than with allowing industrialized countries to continue to pollute.

The approach underlying the initiative is part of a broader effort to create a market for emission credits, which would allow polluters to continue releasing greenhouse gases if they can produce a certificate attesting that they have contributed toward preventing a similar amount of emissions elsewhere. The forests being protected by REDD+ are important producers of these tradable certificates to pollute, known as carbon credits. And REDD implementation through experimental projects provides advocates of this approach a solid foundation on which to advance their agenda.

For industrialized countries, carbon

credits have proved to be an easy way to meet their international commitments under agreements like the Kyoto Protocol. If REDD credits are approved in Paris, countries and companies could pay peasant farmers in Ecuador or elsewhere to protect trees that programs like REDD+ claim they otherwise would have chopped down — thereby avoiding the need to make difficult structural changes to cut emissions at home. Under the rules governing these transactions, the fact that no emissions were actually cut does not matter; what is important is that the tradable permission to pollute has been obtained.

Unfortunately, few of those meeting in Paris have incentives to question this approach. For governments, programs like REDD+ offer an opportunity to avoid politically costly changes. And for international conservation groups like The Nature Conservancy, Conservation International, the World Wildlife Fund, and the Wildlife Conservation Society, the program provides access to international development and philanthropic funding.

The biggest beneficiaries, of course, are the corporations whose hunger for land is driving most of the large-scale deforestation. In addition to allowing them to continue cutting down trees as long as they can produce the necessary carbon credits, REDD+ effectively shifts the blame for forest loss away from their actions and onto communities that have the greatest stake in forests' long-term health.

If the climate negotiators meeting in Paris are truly interested in halting forest loss and bringing climate change under control, they should pull the plug on REDD+ and address the underlying causes of these problems. Rather than attempting to control the lives and actions of forest peoples and peasant farmers, the effort in Paris should focus on ending large-scale deforestation and leaving fossil fuels in the ground.

Jutta Kill is a researcher and activist who has written extensively about carbon markets and voluntary certification schemes. © Project Syndicate, 2015 www.project-syndicate.org

affecting Japan's national interests that may some day come before the court.

To flout the court's ruling in this case would suggest that Japan only supports international law and the court if it aligns with Japan's interests. The Foreign Ministry must have pointed out that the decision to ignore the whaling ruling would undermine Japan's international reputation and ability to appeal to the court in the future.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has pub-

Eliminating lymphatic filariasis in the Pacific

Kazuyo Ichimori
Nagasaki
SPECIAL TO THE JAPAN TIMES

In the late 1970s, Japan made history by becoming one of the first countries in the world to eliminate lymphatic filariasis (LF). Also known as elephantiasis, this disease causes painful swelling of the limbs, and in advanced stages permanent disability.

I want to tell the story of the Pacific Program to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis, called PacELF, for short. The achievements unfolding across 22 Pacific Island nations exemplify what the world should be doing on a greater scale to end LF.

I first learned about the unimaginable and unforgettable suffering of this disease as a young student in Tokyo. I was further exposed to its devastating impacts during my posts in Samoa and Vanuatu in the 1990s for the World Health Organization (WHO).

Today, hundreds of millions of people worldwide remain at risk for this entirely preventable disease, with about 120 million people already infected. Left untreated, LF debilitates and disfigures all those infected, leaving them unable to attend school or work. In addition to the heavy physical and economic repercussions, people are further weighed down by social stigma, leading to enormous mental suffering and social isolation.

Japan's achievement in combating this pernicious disease was made possible because of close collaboration with affected communities, local government officials, doctors, nurses and other public health specialists. The program matched the people's needs with the expertise of the government, academia and health agencies. Today, Japan is building on this proven model of success to help eliminate LF in the neighboring Pacific Island Countries (PICs).

Part of the wider Western Pacific region, these 22 island nations are geographically dispersed across the Pacific Ocean and represent diverse cultures and economic interests, but when it comes to the region's effort to wipe out LF, they share common ground.

With hundreds of millions of people at risk worldwide, it's going to take strong public-private sector partnerships, shared commitment and unwavering determination to win the fight against LF. To that end, it is encouraging

that Japanese embassies must expect more protests and vilification. This means that increased vigilance and security measures will be needed.

Greenpeace may well attempt to disrupt the actions of Japanese whalers. Counteraction by the whalers against the protesters could be counterproductive in the court of world public opinion.

This is a formidable list of reasons why the decision to send out the whaling fleet should not have been made. What could Japan hope to gain from it?

British missions abroad would then have been sent a detailed brief about the rationale for the decision with guidance on how to deal with questions.

The failure of the Japanese government to explain its decisions to people abroad suggests a contempt not only for the International Court of Justice but also for public opinion outside Japan.

Hugh Cortazzi was the British ambassador to Japan from 1980 to 1984.

a surge of energy and experience to PacELF, drawing upon the expertise acquired during its own elimination campaign.

More than 15 years after the launch of PacELF, LF is losing its hold on the region. To date, eight nations have reduced prevalence enough to stop large-scale drug treatment, and have surveillance activities in place to ensure they have eliminated transmission. Among them, Niue, Palau and Vanuatu are working with the WHO to be certified LF-free.

Though we should celebrate these successes, there are still challenges ahead. Today, Papua New Guinea accounts for 90 percent of the PacELF population that needs treatment. Challenges include daunting economic, technical, logistical and political difficulties; however, the situation is beginning to change with close community engagement, public awareness and focused LF treatment.

Other countries, such as New Caledonia, also have work to do, but are moving toward success through this collaborative approach.

I am proud that Japan has been a major contributor from the start by pioneering a model to eliminate LF — providing financial support, technical and operational advice that has extended across the Pacific. Japan, together with global partners, has an opportunity to make history again.

With country ownership and customized mobilization campaigns, complemented by technical support and coordination with partners, PacELF has shown the world what can be done. Having worked toward this goal for many years, it is astounding to see just how close we are to eliminating this disease as a public health threat.

Taking the final steps in the Pacific will help reduce the regional and global burden, removing barriers to economic growth and allowing endemic countries to pull themselves out of extreme poverty. The control and elimination of LF and other neglected tropical diseases is an achievable legacy, and one we can create with sustained resources and commitments over the coming years.

A scientist at the World Health Organization from 1992-2013, Kazuyo Ichimori is currently a visiting professor at Nagasaki University.