



## **TICAD8 Declaration on Digitalization of Maternal and Child Health Handbook and Mother and Child Registration**

At the TICAD8 official side event, "Digitalization of Maternal and Child Health Handbooks and Information: Benefits to Mothers and Children and Contributions to Public Health in Africa," stakeholders from Africa and Japan gathered to discuss the digitalization of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) handbooks and Mother and Child (MC) Registration in Africa. The MCH handbook was born in Japan in 1948 and is now flourishing worldwide, including in Africa and over 50 countries and areas. Along with the digitalization of social systems, the distribution of MCH Handbooks are also progressing in some parts of the world. However, it isn't easy to see the whole picture when different systems are developed and implemented separately. It could also leave out people unable to keep up with digitalization. To address the critical challenge of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), "leave no one behind," it is necessary to identify such mothers and children based on the principle of EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) and ensure high-quality services to them as well. To this end, we need to establish a mother and child registration (MC) system to fulfill the promise that all mothers and children receive a digitalized MCH handbook to improve the quality of health and well-being of mothers and children worldwide, especially in Africa and Japan.

The organizers and participants of this side event hereby make the following conclusions and recommendations.

### **1. The digitalization of the MCH handbook and the establishment of the MC registration are necessary**

To effectively provide services to all mothers and children equitably, promoting the MCH handbook's digitalization and the development of the MC registration are necessary.

### **2. Digitalized MCH handbooks and MC registration systems should be developed by all parties under the common concept.**

It is necessary to establish a system where different mechanisms of development are not operated in a mixed manner to avoid confusion.

### **3. There is a need for a place where parties involved in digitalizing the MCH handbook and MC**



**registration can get together and share information.**

We establish a consortium to create a platform for information sharing and discussion.

On behalf of the organizers of this TICAD8 official side event and its participants, in consultation with stakeholders and experts, we adopt this conclusion as the TICAD8 Declaration on Digitalization of MCH Handbook and MC Registration as a guide for moving forward.

Best regards and best wishes.

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