

Rabat Declaration

The participants from African countries, namely Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Senegal, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and from the government of Japan, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the City of Yokohama, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), African Development Bank (AfDB), having met at the first Annual Meeting of the African Clean Cities Platform in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco from 26 to 28 June 2018,

Taking note of the Maputo Declaration, adopted at the Preparatory Meeting of the African Clean Cities Platform in Maputo, Mozambique held from 25th to 27th April 2017, which endorsed the inauguration of the African Clean Cities Platform,

Reaffirming our commitments to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the African Union's Agenda 2063 – The Africa We Want,

Noting with satisfaction and recognizing the significant contribution of the Kingdom of Morocco for hosting the first Annual Meeting of the African Clean Cities Platform,

Welcoming participants who have newly joined the African Clean Cities Platform since the Preparatory Meeting in Maputo in 2017,

Noting that proper waste management not only addresses sanitary and environmental issues but also boosts innovation, employment and sustainable economic growth through investment and tourism in Africa,

Underscoring the critical importance of cooperation and partnership among African countries, Japan, the UN agencies, the private sector and other stakeholders in order to enhance integrated waste management capabilities in Africa,

Considering the discussion during the first Annual Meeting of the African Clean Cities under the co-chairs of the Kingdom of Morocco and Japan,

Hereby declare that the participants carry out the following efforts:

1. Promote (i) sharing of experience/ expertise and networking , (ii) public awareness raising, and (iii) monitoring activities including definitions and methodologies for data collection with the aim of developing coherent and effective strategies and policies to achieve waste-related SDG targets.
2. Ensure the safe and environmentally sound waste management practices to prevent risks caused by weak solid waste management practices, such as fire, collapse and wastewater pollution in the landfill site.
3. Strengthen policy-relevant, institutional, organizational, and technical capabilities to address waste management challenges through local, national and international cooperation, including mutual learning in Africa.
4. Leverage multi-sector partnerships such as public-private-partnerships (PPPs) for waste management and expand investment opportunities in waste and 3R business operations.
5. Strengthen collaboration among the participants in the area of urban development and clean, sustainable cities towards the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) to be held in 2019 in Yokohama, Japan.

(End)