

**H.E. Mr. Smail Chergui, Former African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security
to receive Japan's 2021 Spring Conferment of Decoration on Foreign Nationals**

H.E. Mr. Smail Chergui, Former African Union (AU) Commissioner for Peace and Security is one of the foreign recipients of Japan's 2021 Spring Conferment of Decoration on Foreign Nationals, which was announced on 29 April 2021 in Tokyo, Japan.

The Decoration was awarded in recognition of his outstanding contribution to strengthening relations between Japan and AU in the field of peace and security. He played a central role in the capacity of the AU Commissioner in the area of peace and security, where Japan has been fully cooperating with African nations as one of the pillars of its foreign policy toward Africa.

Ambassador Chergui receives the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star. He has been served as AU Commissioner for Peace and Security for 8 years since 2013 until March 2021.

DECORATION: The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star

SERVICE: Contributed to strengthening relations between Japan and African Union in the field of peace and security

NAME: H.E. Mr. Smail Chergui

MAJOR TITLE: Former African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Ambassador Chergui was devoted to implementing Japan's cooperation with Africa in the field of peace and security. Fully collaborating with the Japanese side, he took a lead to formulate, implement and evaluate the projects for peace and security in Africa to which Japan has contributed its funds for the AU Peace Fund.

Moreover, Ambassador Chergui played a proactive role in Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), the summit forum for Africa that Japan has been leading together with African and international partners since as early as 1993. H.E. Mr. Chergui was dedicated to successful conclusions of TICADV (in 2013), TICADVI(in 2016) and TICAD7 (in 2019). In particular, during TICAD7, he co-chaired with then Japanese Foreign Minister the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region, and he contributed to a discussion by providing a briefing on the situation in South Sudan during the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region.

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Mission of Japan to the African Union

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