
Haiti National Day Special

Solid agenda of partnership in various areas

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CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF HAITI



On Jan. 1, Haiti commemorates its 220th anniversary of existence on the international scene. Indeed, on Jan. 1, 1804, Gen. Jean-Jacques Dessalines, commander in chief of the Indig-

enous Army, pro-

claimed the independence of this country. This proclamation followed the triumph of a phenomenal revolution, which took place between Aug. 22, 1791, and Nov. 18, 1803, by the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte's troops at the Battle of Vertieres. This is how Haiti became the first independent Black state in the world.

By its scope, this revolution announced the end of the colonial slavery system established in the world at the end of the 15th

century. It went very far as to carry the ideal of freedom and equality for all, regardless of ethnicity or genres, important values promoted today by the United Nations.

Under these conditions, the birth of Haiti represented an anomaly for some, and an everyday struggle for others. From 1804 to now, despite the hazards, the ups and downs and the difficulties, Haiti remains a state within the international community.

Over the years, it has established diplomatic relations with great powers, such as France, Germany and the United States of America. Also, it founded with its closest geographical neighbor, the Dominican Republic, a policy of good neighborliness.

Later, when the time came to address Asia, Japan was the first country considered. The first political rapprochements between the two countries materialized at the beginning of 1930 with the opening of the Consulate General of Haiti in Kobe. Afterwards, in 1956, the two states systematized diplomatic relations.

Since then, at different levels, these relations have been strengthened. For example, on the commercial level, Japan exports vehicles, household appliances, tires and other accessories to Haiti. On the other hand, Haitian exports to Japan traditionally include coffee, rum, handcrafts and essential oils.

Today, Japan represents one of the most important diplomatic partners for Haiti. In fact, the Haitian authorities attach great importance to these relationships built over the years. On this basis, it is possible to establish a solid bilateral cooperation agenda between the two, particularly in the areas of education, agriculture and technology.

This is an important wish expressed on the occasion of the 220th anniversary of the proclamation of Haiti's independence.

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