

Angola National Day Special

Ongoing progress in political and business spheres

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AMBASSADOR OF ANGOLA



On the auspicious occasion of the 44th Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Angola, I avail myself of this opportunity to, on behalf of President Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco, the government and the people of the Republic of Angola, convey our heartfelt greetings to Their Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, the imperial family, the government and the people of Japan and express our sincere wishes for continued prosperity to Japan in the new Reiwa Era.

Today, as we celebrate the independence of Angola, we pay tribute and deep respect to all those who heroically sacrificed their lives for the independence of our home-



President of the Republic of Angola Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco

land since the dawn of the colonial liberation struggle. Their untold sacrifices led to the birth of an independent Angola on Nov. 11, 1975, following five centuries of colonization.



Located in Malanje province, the Kalandula Falls are among Africa's largest waterfalls by volume.
EMBASSY OF ANGOLA

Over the years, we have managed to transform our country from a civil war-torn one into a stable and prosperous nation. It features among Africa's 10 largest economies and contributes greatly to peace and security on the African continent. As a young democracy, Angola has since September 2017 had a new government, led by the president, whose policies against corruption and impunity have been applauded in Angola and beyond.

Angola and Japan maintain cordial and excellent bilateral ties, and this year we celebrate the 43rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The year 2019 has been a remarkable one for Angola-Japan bilateral ties.

In January, the two countries signed a general agreement for an export credit facility for the Namibe Bay Integrated Development Project, which comprises the expansion of the new container terminal and the rehabilitation of the Sacomar iron ore export terminal. The project, which will be executed by two Japanese companies, namely Toyota Tsusho Corp. and Toa Corp., will not only contribute to the development of the southern part of Angola but also to the country's economic diversification process.

In May, then-Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono visited Angola, the first of such visits by a Japanese foreign minister to Angola in 17 years. In August, the president, accompanied by several key ministers, visited Japan to attend The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 7), marking Angola's first participation in the TICAD process at the head of state level, thus turning a new page in Angola-Japan relations.



In October, the two countries signed a technical cooperation agreement, an instrument that will contribute to Angola's economic and social development and further strengthen Angola-Japan cooperation. The two countries are currently negotiating and making all the necessary efforts for the early conclusion of a bilateral investment treaty that will boost business between Angola and Japan.

We hope to further strengthen the relations between the two countries with a state visit by the president of Angola to Japan next year. I am confident that the friendship between the peoples of both countries and bilateral relations between the two governments will continue to flourish and reach new heights.

To conclude, I would like to congratulate all my compatriots on the occasion of the 44th Anniversary of the Independence of Angola, as well as congratulate the citizens of both countries for the 43 years of diplomatic relations between Angola and Japan.

The Tundavala Gap viewpoint in Huila province, Angola
EMBASSY OF ANGOLA

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

Congratulations
to the People of the Republic of Angola
on the Occasion of Their Independence Day

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