

Nigeria Independence Day Special

Relationships continue to grow, flourish in many areas

ABUBAKAR MORIKI HUSAINI
AMBASSADOR OF NIGERIA



On the auspicious occasion of Nigeria's Independence Day celebrations, I felicitate my fellow Nigerians, friends of Nigeria and the government and good people of Japan, on the 62nd independence anniversary of our dear country, the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The turning point for a new beginning started on Oct. 1, 1960, after the lowering of the Union Jack and the raising of the "green, white, green" flag of Nigeria. Those who witnessed the historical moment can still relish the memory of that great day in the history of our dear country — a day of hope and aspiration for the future.

It has also been 62 years since Nigeria established diplomatic relations with Japan. The relationship has deepened to a level that exchanges of information, collaboration and support for each other's candidates in international elections are very cordial and friendly. The friendly ties have seen our embassy's participation in many meetings, events and ceremonies organized by the government of Japan. Recently, the mission participated at the annual peace memorial events in both Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as the state funeral of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, may his soul rest in peace. The mission also participated in the recent eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development in Tunisia.

In April, the biennial Nigeria-Japan Special Partnership Forum was held in Abuja. Although it was held virtually, top government officials from both sides participated. Also, the visit of the high-level delegation



President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
H.E. Muhammadu Buhari GCFR
EMBASSY OF NIGERIA

from the National Automotive Design and Development Council of Nigeria to Japan for meetings with automotive original equipment manufacturers was equally fruitful and insightful. Our various engagements with government agencies and diplomatic missions have also yielded positive results. It is my commitment to continue to partner and promote mutual interests between our nations.

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

On the home front, many people may wish to know the prevailing security situation in Nigeria regarding the insurgents in some parts of the country. Permit me to state that the government is keenly aware of the shadows that threaten our progress. The present administration, through concerted efforts and proactive strategies of information sharing, constant consultation and collaboration with Nigeria's neighboring countries, has seen security personnel record great success in areas where the insurgents operate and we are gradually returning to normalcy. What we need is genuine peace at all times.

Regarding the economy, the administration is making concerted efforts through the introduction of information technology-driven digitalization of our economy to be in tune with modern-day realities. With the deployment of cutting-edge technology, investors can be assured of maximum returns on their investments. The new business outlook in Nigeria comes with many incentives, such as a tax moratorium, one-stop business registration, full repatriation of profits and more. I wish to affirm Nigeria's commitment in providing a conducive business environment.

Therefore, I call on all Nigerians, friends of Nigeria and potential investors to open discussions on how to explore the numerous investment opportunities in Nigeria, including the friendly business incentives in place. For more details on investment and economic opportunities in Nigeria, please contact the embassy.

Since becoming ambassador, I have embarked on measures tailored toward

three results-driven pillars. These are constructive engagement with the host government and its agencies; attracting investors with the ease and numerous advantages of doing business in Nigeria; and promoting Nigerian interests, while supporting Nigerians in Japan.

In conclusion, I call on all friends of Nigeria to join us in the celebration of our Independence Day.



Dangote Refinery, Lagos EMBASSY OF NIGERIA



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the Federal Republic of Nigeria
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence*

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