## Malawi National Day Special

## Agriculture, tourism and mining in spotlight

KWACHA CHISIZA AMBASSADOR OF MALAWI



July 6 is a day that resonates profoundly with the people of Malawi, marking the pivotal moment when we achieved independence and the beginning of a new era. This year's com-

memoration carries a deeper meaning, as we also celebrate 60 years of bilateral relations with Japan.

This commemoration, however, is overshadowed by the tragic death of the Right Honorable Saulos Klaus Chilima, who until his death was the vice president of the Republic of Malawi. The military aircraft he was traveling in crashed in the Chikangawa Forest Reserve, claiming the lives of Chilima and eight others who were aboard, on June 10.

As we reflect on 60 years of independence, we acknowledge the tremendous contributions Chilima made to our nation. As vice president, he spearheaded public-sector reforms aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of government operations. He played a crucial role in implementing our national development goals and will be remembered for his dedication to reform, economic development and youth empowerment. His tragic passing is a significant loss to Malawi and indeed, to the African continent.

Though our hearts are in pain, our spirits remain resolute. We honor Chilima's This content was memory and that of our fellow Malawicompiled in colans by continuing to move forward. We laboration with the renew our commitment to realizing our embassy. The views national developmental goals enshrined expressed here do in Malawi 2063, the blueprint and road not necessarily map for our country's progress, which reflect those of the envisions an inclusively wealthy, self-relinewspaper.

ant industrialized upper-middle-income country by 2063.

Central to this vision is our acknowledgment of Malawi's abundant natural resources, rich cultural heritage and the vibrant energy of our youth, which accounts for 80% of our overall population.

Presently, we are focusing on achieving economic development through what's been dubbed the "A.T.M. strategy," which emphasizes investment in agriculture, tourism and mining. Under this

framework, we see enormous trade and investment opportunities. We strongly believe that these three strategic sectors can transform our economy and propel us toward middle-income status by 2030, leading to transformative industrialization.

Japan holds a special place in our hearts as a valued ally and beacon of development. We are grateful for the friendship and cooperation that has existed between Malawi and Japan since 1964. Malawi is the highest recipient of technical assis-

tance received through the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and at the multilateral level, we continue to benefit through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development. We look forward to working closely with Japan in implementing our A.T.M. strategy.

As we commemorate this significant milestone in our nation's history, we draw strength from the enduring partnerships that support our progress. We continue to strive for a brighter, more prosperous future for all Malawians.



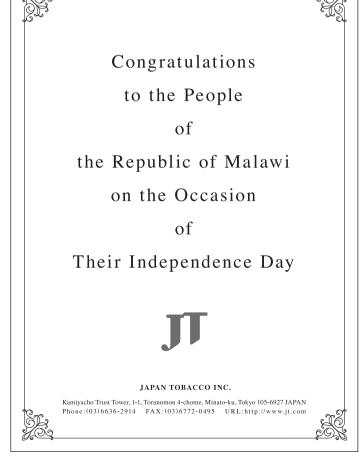
The Mulanje Massif rises over 3,000 meters above the town of Phalombe. EMBASSY OF MALAWI





Surveying the runway at Kamuzu International Airport as part of the Project for Capacity Development in Airport Maintenance Services in Malawi





## **Congratulations**

to the People of
the Republic of Malawi
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence



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