

# Brazil National Day Special

## Toward a just world and a sustainable planet

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AMBASSADOR OF BRAZIL



“Building a just world and a sustainable planet” — this is the motto of Brazil’s presidency of the Group of 20, which comprises the world’s 19 largest economies plus the African Union

and the European Union. The G20 represents around 85% of the world’s GDP and over 75% of international trade and has become, throughout the years, one of the main fora for international cooperation not only on economic issues, but on global governance overall.

Brazil has elected three priorities for the G20’s presidency in 2024. The first is to fight hunger and poverty. According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, 1 in 11 people worldwide faced hunger in 2023. This is unacceptable, and this is why we are proposing a “Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty.” Many countries, including Brazil, have developed public policies to alleviate poverty and hunger. We want to put these successful experiences at the service of those most in need, and to bring together countries and organizations that are capable of supporting these initiatives. The alliance will be officially launched at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro in November, and we call on all world leaders to join us in this fight.

The second priority is sustainable development in its three dimensions: economic, social and environmental. The world is undergoing major transformations, and we must make sure they result in better living conditions for all of humankind. Above all, we need to tackle the challenge of decar-

bonization. At the helm of the G20, Brazil is pushing all countries to come up with ambitious national plans to reduce carbon emissions, with the aim of achieving positive results in next year’s United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30), which we will host in the heart of the Amazon, in the city of Belem.

Our third priority is global governance reform. Our multilateral institutions need to be updated to reflect the realities of the 21st century. We cannot discuss the planet’s most pressing issues without the presence of those most affected at the table. In the United Nations, Brazil and Japan are already acting in coordination with Germany and India (G4) to reform the Security Council. But we also need to update the structure of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other similar institutions. Foreign ministers from the G20 and other countries will gather in September in New York to discuss how to advance on this agenda.

In this and other areas, Brazil and Japan have a lot in common. In May, President Lula da Silva had the honor of hosting Prime Minister Fumio Kishida in Brazil. Our governments decided to renew and to strengthen our strategic and global partnership, reaffirming our shared values and our common interests. Public and private institutions from both our countries signed almost 30 agreements. In the automotive sector alone, Japanese companies have announced more than \$4 billion of investment in Brazil for the coming years.

Brazil and Japan have also decided to launch a Green Partnership Initiative. The potential for cooperation in this area is huge. Brazil is a leader in renewable energy, while Japan is at the forefront of investments in areas such as hydrogen energy. Brazil has the world’s largest rainforest cover, while Japan has the technology to help protect the environment. We

are already working together to develop innovative solutions, such as sustainable aviation fuels, while at the same time using satellites to monitor and fight deforestation. Our joint work has already produced results, with Japan becoming the first country in Asia to invest in the Amazon Fund. So, there is much to hope for, and much to work for.

Next year, Brazil and Japan will celebrate 130 years of diplomatic relations. Lula has already announced his intention to visit Japan to kick-start these celebrations, which will include our pavilion at the 2025 World Expo in Osaka. But we don’t want to just celebrate our past. We want to build our future. We want to seize this momentum to strengthen our political dialogue and our economic relations. We want to increase trade and investment ties, through a comprehensive economic partnership agreement. We want to provide the Japanese market with our competitive, reliable and sustainable beef and pork. We want to deepen our cooperation on science and technology, including high-tech areas such as space exploration and semiconductor production.

The friendship between Brazil and Japan is based on unique human ties: Brazil is home to the largest Japanese diaspora abroad, with over 2 million people of Japanese descent. At the same time, Brazilians are the largest non-Asian community in Japan, with over 200,000 of our nationals working, studying and actively participating in the economy of this country. We need to build on this legacy to further strengthen our partnership, so we can work ever closer, as we build a just world and a sustainable planet.

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



**President Lula da Silva greets Prime Minister Fumio Kishida in Brasilia on May 3.**

RICARDO STUCKERT,  
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### Congratulations to the People of Brazil on the Occasion of the Anniversary of Their Independence



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of  
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