

Cote d'Ivoire Independence Day Special

Building a resilient, beneficial partnership

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AMBASSADOR OF COTE D'IVOIRE



On the occasion of the celebration of the Independence Day of Cote d'Ivoire on Aug. 7, I would like, on behalf of the President of the Republic His Excellency Alassane Ouattara,

the people and the government, as well as on my own behalf, to extend my respectful greetings to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako. I would like to express to the imperial family my fervent wishes for their health and happiness.

I also wish to convey my warmest greetings to His Excellency Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba, the government and the friendly people of Japan.

This year, Japan and Cote d'Ivoire are celebrating the 65th anniversary of a strong partnership of trust and mutual respect.

We owe this harmonious partnership to the reciprocal esteem of our visionary leaders, namely Japan's emperor and our president.

Established in 1960, upon Cote d'Ivoire's accession to national sovereignty, our bilateral relations have strengthened politically, economically, socially and culturally. They have registered a new dynamic under the joint impetus of the president and the late Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, during the latter's memorable visit to Abidjan in 2014.

Japan is a key and reliable partner of Cote d'Ivoire in the realization of various infrastructure, health and education projects, contributing significantly to the implementation of sustainable development goals and thus to improving the living conditions of the population. Cultural and educational exchanges have also played an essential role in strengthening mutual understanding and appreciation

between the Ivorian and Japanese peoples.

At this stage of maturity in their relations, the two countries reaffirm their commitment to explore new avenues of cooperation, particularly in the sectors of agriculture, information technology, renewable energy and industrial transformation. The objective is to boost trade and direct investment between Japan and Cote d'Ivoire.

While intergovernmental cooperation continues to strengthen in various fields, the role of the Japanese and Ivorian private sectors is becoming increasingly central to supporting public policies. It is indeed through private initiatives that the full economic potential of the two nations can be truly exploited, leading to mutually beneficial sustainable growth.

Complementary to the efforts of governments, the private sectors must identify and seize the enormous potential offered by the respective markets by sharing best

practices, facilitating strategic partnerships and innovating in new fields. This public-private synergy is essential to transform opportunities into concrete successes.

Increasing the volume of traditional exports and imports while also promoting new products and services is also essential. For Cote d'Ivoire, this means valorizing its natural and agricultural resources through local processing, while Japan can offer its expertise in advanced technologies and manufactured goods.

By strengthening collaboration between their private sectors, Cote d'Ivoire and Japan are not only improving their bilateral relations — they are building a resilient and mutually beneficial partnership capable of meeting global challenges and contributing significantly to the achievement of the United Nations sustainable development goals, in particular those related to economic prosperity and industrial innovation.



**President of
Cote d'Ivoire H.E.
Alassane Ouattara**
EMBASSY OF
COTE D'IVOIRE

The successful organization of the Japan-Africa Economic Forum in Abidjan in December 2024, the great enthusiasm aroused by the Invest in Cote d'Ivoire Forum during Ivorian week at the Osaka Expo, the upcoming ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development, and the success of the recent issue by the Ivorian government of samurai bonds are all events that contribute to strengthening interactions and understanding between our private sectors and

bode well for happy prospects.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the companies that sponsored this message in The Japan Times — Marubeni Corp., Mitsubishi Corp., NS Semicon Co. and Toyota Corp.

Long live Ivorian-Japanese cooperation.

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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 Cote d'Ivoire
on the Anniversary of Their Independence*

Japan Cote d'Ivoire Friendship Association (JCIFA)
<https://jcifa.org/>

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to the People of
the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence



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