# **Angola** National Day Special

## Brighter future looms after 50 years of unity

TEODOLINDA ROSA RODRIGUES COELHO AMBASSADOR OF ANGOLA



As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Angola, on behalf of His Excellency President Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco, allow me to extend greetings to

Emperor Naruhito, Empress Masako, other members of the imperial family and to the people of Japan.

On Nov. 11, Angola celebrates 50 years of national independence and 23 years of peace and national reconciliation. At this special moment, we remember the victories achieved in terms of development, social progress and the challenge of improving the living conditions of all Angolans, while firmly facing the challenges ahead.

The Angolan people have come a long



also peace, which is why the president of the republic pays tribute to all the valiant combatants who contributed to the construction and building of the nation based on the principles of solidarity and the rule This is an opportunity to reflect on the

way to achieve not only independence, but

path taken and to promote civic engagement and unity to face the challenges that remain, such as poverty, inequality and corruption.

With independence and peace, we have ensured political stability and national security, reconstruction and development of infrastructure, social housing and new and modern hospitals and airports. We have also seen improvement of the electricity grid and the emergence of a peaceful environment to attract foreign investment, economic development and the promotion of tourism.

In short, Angola has gone from being a country at war to a credible partner in African and global diplomacy, strengthening its international image.

Recently, the African Union honored Lourenco with the title of "Champion of Peace and Reconciliation in Africa," in recognition of his tireless commitment to promoting peace, dialogue and stability on the continent, particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic.

We need to industrialize our country, improve the health system, provide more schools for our people, improve the supply of drinking water, create more jobs for young people and work to ensure that the benefits of our wealth are increasingly reflected in the lives of our citizens.

Japan was one of the first countries to recognize Angola's independence and we therefore count on Japanese cooperation to improve various sectors of our economy.

We hope to strengthen and expand relations in areas such as oil, gas and mining, taking advantage of Japan's industrial capacity to make Angola a strategic partner on the African continent.

On Oct. 10, the president inaugurated the Integrated Development Project for Mocamedes Bay and the Cultural Centre, both financed by Japan through Toyota Tsusho Corp.

For our community in Japan, regardless of the reasons that brought them here, our embassy in Tokyo is our meeting point. where we can interact and maintain ties with our motherland, which needs all its



A rainbow accents a view of Kalandula Falls, which stands 105 meters above and 400 meters across the Lucala River in Malange province. EMBASSY OF ANGOLA

children to build the dreamed country of the heroes of our independence.

At this challenging time for humanity, it is time to look to the future, to call for a world without war, a world of dialogue and leave a legacy for future generations.

This is our main challenge, reinforced by the central theme of our independence celebrations, which is "Angola 50 Years: Preserving and Valuing our Achievements, Building a Better Future."

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

The Serra da Leba pass, a national landmark, features several hairpin turns that take drivers 1,845 meters up the famed mountain

EMBASSY OF ANGOLA

#### **Congratulations**

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



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