

# Zimbabwe Independence Day Special

## Building friendly and robust bonds

**STEWART NYAKOTYO**  
AMBASSADOR OF ZIMBABWE



This year, we proudly commemorate the 46th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Zimbabwe, attained on April 18, 1980, a historic milestone that restored our sovereignty and affirmed our people's right to self-determination. Today, I convey my sincere congratulations to all Zimbabweans residing in Japan, as we pay solemn tribute to our brave liberation heroes for their sacrifices in the attainment of our freedom.

I also take this opportunity to extend warm greetings from the President of Zimbabwe His Excellency Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa and the people of Zimbabwe to Their Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, members of the imperial family, the government and the people of Japan. We deeply cherish the enduring

bonds of friendship and cooperation between Zimbabwe and Japan, and we remain committed to strengthening collaboration in infrastructure development, agriculture, tourism, public health, technology, education and sustainable development.

Our 46th independence anniversary is being commemorated under the theme "Zim@46: Unity and Development Towards Vision 2030." This theme encapsulates our steadfast resolve to consolidate national unity and to ensure the inclusion and participation of all citizens in development programs, inspired by the mantra "leaving no one behind."

Guided by Vision 2030, Zimbabwe continues to implement reforms to reinforce macroeconomic stability as part of its National Development Strategy 2, focusing on improving the investment climate and ease of doing business, while promoting private-sector-led growth.

Meanwhile, relations between Zimbabwe and Japan continued to deepen over the past year. The president was the guest of honor on Zimbabwe's National Day at the Osaka Expo, which showcased Zimba-

bwe's economic and investment potential, innovations and tourism sites, such as Victoria Falls. The president also attended the ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development in Yokohama, holding constructive discussions with then-Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba.

I am pleased that parliamentary diplomacy equally strengthened, following the official visit to Japan by the Speaker of Parliament Advocate Jacob F.N. Mudenda, who held fruitful meetings with counterparts in the Diet. Such engagements underscore the mutual respect and shared aspiration for prosperity that continue to define Zimbabwe-Japan relations.

As we commemorate our independence, I wish to reaffirm that "Zimbabwe is open for business," and invite the business fraternity in Japan to consider Zimbabwe a reliable partner and destination of choice for trade and investment in various sectors.

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



President Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa speaks to promote Zimbabwe at the Osaka Expo on July 16, 2025. EMBASSY OF ZIMBABWE

### Congratulations

We use a mineral called Petalite from Zimbabwe to make Donabe, a fire-proof casserole pot.

私たちは、ジンバブエ共和国のベタライトという鉱物で、土鍋を作っています。

*Peace*

平和への願い

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*Congratulations*  
*to the People of*  
*the Republic of Zimbabwe*  
*on the Anniversary of*  
*Their Independence*

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