

Chile National Day Special

Long-standing friendship and a shared future

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This month, Chile celebrates its National Day, commemorating the establishment of the first government junta in 1810. More than two centuries later, Chile continues to move

forward, strengthened by the dedication of its people and the partnerships it has built with countries such as Japan. As the world continues to evolve, Chile and Japan remain close partners, nurturing a friendship that will soon mark 130 years of sustained dialogue, cooperation and high-level exchanges.

In March, Midori Matsushima, chair of the Japan-Chile Parliamentary Friendship League, traveled to Chile as the special envoy representing Japan at the inauguration ceremony of President Jose Antonio Kast in Valparaiso. Last month, Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs Francisco Perez visited Tokyo on a fruitful trip that included meetings with Foreign Affairs Minister Toshimitsu Motegi, State Economy Minister Kenji Yamada, Matsushima and representatives of Japanese companies with investments and projects in Chile.

More than 140 Japanese companies currently operate in Chile, reflecting the strong trust Japanese investors have placed in our country and their recognition of Chile's stability and favorable conditions for investment. Japan is now the largest Asian investor in Chile, with more than \$7 billion (¥1.07 trillion) invested across a wide range of sectors throughout the country, from north to south. Key areas of investment include energy, mining, global services and the food industry.

Chile and Japan also share a vision for

a sustainable energy transition. Chile has a diverse renewable energy matrix with a strong foundation in hydropower, and is actively expanding its solar and wind energy generation and storage capacity.

In addition, Chile's green hydrogen sector is developing rapidly, with growing investment and strong cooperation with key partners such as Japan. In this context, several Chilean experts have visited Japan to exchange experiences and perspectives in this crucial area, as the world seeks to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels

and advance toward a sustainable energy future.

Another important milestone this year was the reopening, after 44 years, of the Defense Attache's Office at the Embassy of Chile in Japan. The office is particularly significant given the deep ties between Chile and Japan in defense, especially in the naval domain. This shared maritime heritage is also reflected in the profound respect both nations hold for two of their greatest naval heroes: Cmdr. Arturo Prat and Adm. Heihachiro Togo. We are confi-

dent that this long-standing tradition of friendship and cooperation can develop into a strategic defense partnership, allowing us to exchange experiences and jointly address future challenges.

On the occasion of our National Day, we reaffirm our commitment to working side by side with Japan, and look forward to a future in which this enduring friendship continues to deepen and our cooperation expands across trade, innovation, defense, renewable energy, mining and many other fields.



At more than 4,500 meters, Lake Chungara is one of the highest lakes in the world.

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



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