

## Peace, stability bring their own rewards

Daniel António  
AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF MOZAMBIQUE TO JAPAN

On this auspicious occasion of the 34th anniversary of the Independence Day of Mozambique, it is an honor for me to convey my warm and heartfelt greetings to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, and my best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the people and government of Japan. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my best wishes to all my fellow Mozambicans in Japan.



Since its independence in 1975, Mozambique has made significant strides in building and developing its economy, and improving the quality of life of its people. Macroeconomic indicators over the last 15 years show significant improvement in economic growth complemented by advances on human and social fronts.

The course of Mozambique's high economic growth rate was shaped by the vision and leadership of President Armando Emílio Guebuza, and the efforts of all Mozambicans in their collective aspiration to attain development and eradicate poverty.

Needless to say, the latest encouraging developments have been made possible as a result of peace, stability and democracy prevailing in Mo-

zambique. Today it is therefore appropriate to pay a well-deserved tribute to those Mozambicans who sacrificed their lives for a better Mozambique.

On Oct. 28, 2009, the people of Mozambique who are of voting age will be called upon, for the fourth time since the Rome General Peace Accord of 1992, to elect the president of the republic, members of the National Assembly as well as members of the Provincial Assemblies. The different democratic institutions in Mozambique are exerting every effort to ensure that these elections are fair, free and transparent.

The country's main policies and strategies are also embedded in the national long-term vision, Agenda 2025, and in the Midterm Government Five-Year Program for the 2005-2009 period, along with the operational plan PARPA from 2006-2009. PARPA was formulated after extensive consultations with all sections of society throughout the country. This plan has taken into account the views and proposals of all stakeholders, including the donors.

It sets out ways and means to achieve a stronger and more value-added economy while substantially focusing on socioeconomic issues, and uplifting the quality of life for all.

At the same time, this plan is supported by deep and timely reforms in public administration aimed at improving the services rendered to the people of Mozambique by civil



President Armando Emílio Guebuza of Mozambique

servants and professionals.

Besides its conducive business environment, Mozambique is also known as a tourist destination. The country has regained its position at the forefront of international tourism, and it is once again one of the most attractive and intriguing destinations in Southern Africa. This February, the government of Mozambique launched "Brand Mozambique" as an instrument to promote and market the country's tourism potential. In 2008, Mozambique received more than 1.52 million tourists from all over the world who were able to enjoy the country's hospitality, famous beaches, national parks and unique cuisine.

In 2009, Pemba Beach in the northern part of Mozambique was acclaimed as one of the 10 most beautiful beaches in the world. Gorongosa National Park has officially "reopened" to tourists after benefiting from the positive results of the partnership between the government and the Carr Foundation of the United States in their joint efforts to return the park to its past glory.

Last year a Center of Hemodialysis was inaugurated at the Central Hospital of Mozambique in cooperation with Tokushukai Medical Corp. This important unit, which is operated by Mozambican medical professionals, is saving the lives of many people and reducing the number of patients sent abroad for renal treatment.

The government of Japan continues its concrete steps to assist our government to fight

hunger and hardship by associating it with the Coalition for African Rice Development, which aims to double rice production in Mozambique and other African countries in the coming 10 years.

Agriculture continues to be treated as the engine of Mozambique's economy. In this sector enormous progress has been observed essentially in the production of maize, tea, sugar, sesame, tropical fruits and rice.

Mozambique continues to enjoy excellent relations with Japan. President Guebuza has made two visits to Japan since 2007, during which a wide range of bilateral issues of mutual interest were discussed. Similarly, a regular exchange of visits at the highest levels, at ministerial and senior official levels has forged a close working relationship between our two governments, and other institutions from both countries.

It is important to observe that this scenario of a growing relationship between the institutions of the two governments is in line with the TICAD IV con-

ference commitments and recommendations, and its subsequent joint trade and investment mission, which visited the Republic of Mozambique from Sept. 2 to 4, 2008.

As a result, a number of Japanese corporations have shown great interest in participating in the development of economic infrastructures, mining and energy resources, and other domains.

Let me take this opportunity to salute and commend the Japanese corporations operating in Mozambique, and those who are creating conditions to do so. Mozambique and Japan share large potential for cooperation, taking into account the huge natural resources that Mozambique has, such as natural gas, minerals and oil exploration. Mozambique can become one of Japan's most relevant partners provided that it gets full access to the Japanese market, technologies and investments.

Lastly, I would like to conclude by thanking The Japan Times for granting me the opportunity to address and greet your esteemed readers on this occasion.



Industrial mettle: Moaloko is the largest aluminum producer in Mozambique and the second-largest in Africa. EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

**Congratulations**  
on the 34th Anniversary of the Independence  
of the Republic of Mozambique

**DNC.**

DAI NIPPON CONSTRUCTION

International Division:  
2-32-22, Higashi-Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo 170-0013, Japan  
Phone: +81 3 5956 4811 Fax: +81 3 5951 1771  
<http://www.dnc.co.jp/en/>

**Congratulations**  
on the 34th Anniversary of  
the Independence of  
the Republic of Mozambique



**G VALUE**  
with you  
Global Glowing Generating

**TOYOTA TSUSHO CORPORATION**  
Metals/ Machinery & Electronics/ Automotive/ Energy & Chemicals/ Produce & Foodstuffs/ Consumer Products, Services & Materials

Head Office : 9-8 Meieki 4-chome, Nakamura-ku, Nagoya 81-52-584-5013  
Tokyo Head Office : 8-1 Marunouchi 3-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 81-3-5288-2081

[www.toyota-tsusho.com](http://www.toyota-tsusho.com)

**Toyota de Moçambique S.A.R.L.**

(Official Authorized Toyota Distributor in Mozambique)  
Rua do Lago Amaramba, 141 Maputo, Mozambique (P.O. Box 1757)  
TEL: 258-21-400966 FAX: 258-21-400471  
Web site: <http://www.toyota-africa.com/countrytop/mozambique.asp>

**Congratulations**  
on the 34th Anniversary of the Independence  
of the Republic of Mozambique

**Mitsubishi Corporation**



World-class destination: In 2009, Pemba Beach in northern Mozambique was acclaimed as one of the 10 most beautiful beaches in the world.