

# Congo national day

## Strategy of sustainable development

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On Aug. 15, the people of the Republic of the Congo commemorate the 55th anniversary of their Independence Day. Once



again, the strategy of development called "The Accelerated Municipalization," initiated by the President of the Republic, H.E. Denis Sassou Nguesso in 2004, continues. The city of Ouessou, the capital of the Sangha Department (or prefecture), in the northwest of the country, is going to host the festivities commemorating the Independence Day. Today, people from the country's other twelve regions will join the people of

Sangha in celebration.

That is why, I would like to inform and share these specific and historic moments with the Japanese people.

On behalf of the president, the government and the people of Congo, I express my best wishes of health, prosperity and longevity to their Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, as well as other distinguished members of the Imperial family.

My feelings of support are extended to the government and the lovely and kind Japanese people who never give up on the reconstruction of a country regularly hit by various natural disasters.

Also, my thanks to the Japanese investors and other partners who nourish the hope to join next year's Congolese Independence Day celebrations.

Regarding accelerated mu-



**Central African States Bank building in Ouessou in the northern Republic of Congo .** EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

nicipalization, this policy consists of building a pillar of development through the establishment of infrastructure such as new hospitals, water purification plants, electric power plants, administrative buildings, airports, seaports, bridges, nightclubs, hotels, roads, railroads, supermarkets,

schools, universities, stadiums and more.

This momentum brings solidarity, unity and confidence from the people to the president of the republic.

Sociologically, political leaders who are natives of the region which hosts the event seem to be bound by a moral

and social contract to accompany the process.

Of course, they have to play a large role such as creating private activities, providing accommodation to their political comrades, foreign guests and relatives, facilitating land acquisition, renting a car, shopping, visiting interesting sites or discovering famous restaurants and local cuisine.

On the education front, the experience provides a positive impact on the diverse tribal groups whose mentality and behavior could change after visiting the region, as they will have met other people, shared views and information and learned about other habits and traditions.

The first regions to experience this policy have shown deep change. In fact, the distances between big cities continue to shorten as airplanes, cars, trains and boats can now move more easily, thanks to improved infrastructure. Other conditions of living are also im-

proved with the installation of water purification facilities, solar power plants and new technology of information and communication.

Before this process of industrialization and administrative reforms, it was a dark night, while today we have a rising sun.

From Japan, I can easily imagine how the place of the official celebration of the Independence Day is overcrowded. Among the onlookers, everyone wants to be in the best position to catch sight of each detail to better enthusiastically recount the event later.

This morning, in Ouessou, all the voices will merge into one voice when the national anthem is sung and the echoes will spread over the land and cover the forests, rivers and mountains before disappearing in the infinite blue sky.

At this specific moment, my concern is about Japan's contribution, as I know that Congo has enormous economic potential and vast natural re-

sources such as oil, mineral resources, forests and special species of timber, natural parks and wild animals, touristic sites, rivers, maritime bays and diverse fish resources.

Fortunately, some good attempts are made by some Japanese enterprises that want to be visible on the Congolese scene and we must encourage them. Among them are Toyota Tsusho, Marubeni Corp., Yamaha Motors, G.S. Yuasa, Tohatsu Co. and GMB.

This is also an opportunity for the embassy of the Republic of the Congo to thank the government and parliamentary authorities of Japan, as well as public and private investors, for their support to the judo and athletic national teams of Congo, in terms of equipment.

As a reminder, from Sept. 4 to 19, Brazzaville, Congo's capital, will host the African Games. I hope the Japan's contribution will help Congolese athletes win a lot of medals.

## Congratulations

to the People of the Republic of Congo  
on the 55th Anniversary of Their Independence



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