

Zambia Independence Day

Further development through investment

Ndiyoi Muliwana Mutiti
AMBASSADOR OF ZAMBIA

On behalf of the President of the Republic of Zambia, H.E. Edgar C. Lungu, the people and the government of Zambia, I convey heartfelt greetings and best wishes of good health to their Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, the Imperial family, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the people



and government of Japan. I remain committed to continue strengthening the excellent ties and cordial relations that exist between Zambia and Japan. The technological advancement,

innovation, education and high-quality infrastructure among others are pertinent areas that give Japan its competitive edge. These are areas that Zambia will endeavor to learn from Japan during my tenure and it will be important that the learning or knowledge acquired is imparted onto others in Zambia to ensure there is continuous improvement.



President of the Republic of Zambia Edgar C. Lungu

As Zambia commemorates her 52nd Independence Anniversary, the country is examining how to continue with its development agenda to ensure that the economy remains robust, wealth is created and the living standards of the citizens enhanced. As a country, Zambia will continue to promote democracy, as this is an important tenet of modern day governance. Zambia has since independence been a very peaceful and stable country and the resolve for peace is demon-

strated by the way ordinary citizens and the business community undertake their activities with ease and peace.

Going forward, Zambia is committed to encouraging the Japanese business community to trade and invest in the different sectors of the economy, as this is the surest way to create wealth and bring about continuous development in the country. Priority sectors include agriculture, energy, infrastructure development, and tourism. As Zambia is richly endowed with minerals, including copper, gold, gemstones and cobalt, the country is now looking to add value to the minerals it produces and investors are encouraged to undertake mineral processing and value addition. The same applies for agriculture products.

Zambia is determined to diversify the economy and to this end, the government, along with the private sector, has created Multi-Facility Economic Zones. The zones are special purpose vehicles that

are being used as platforms for expanding the manufacturing sector. The zones, namely Chambeshi, Lusaka East, Lusaka South, Lumwana and Roma Park have supporting infrastructure, including roads, power and water, as well as incentives to attract investment. The goods produced can be exported to the South African Development Community or the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa where Zambia is part of the free trade area. Further, the country is also given preferential market access to Japan, the EU, the U.S., China, India and Canada under various initiatives.

In conclusion, I wish to encourage future tourists to consider Zambia as a travel destination. The country is home to numerous waterfalls, including Victoria Falls, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the seven natural wonders of the world. The country is also home to various animals, hot springs and the second-largest wildebeest migration in the world.

Promoting friendship and mutual understanding

Katsumi Yamaguchi
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-ZAMBIA FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION;
PRESIDENT, ECC GROUP OF SCHOOLS



I am pleased to convey my heartfelt congratulations on the 52nd anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Zambia. It is a great honor to join the people of Zambia in celebrating its Independence Day each year since our establishment in 1975. On behalf of the members of the Japan-Zambia Friendship Association, students and staff at the ECC Group of Schools, and the people of Japan, I am sincerely pleased to extend our warmest congratulations to His Excellency, President Edgar Lungu, and our love and friendship to all the people of the peace-loving Republic of Zambia.

I am very impressed to see Zambia continuing to make steady strides as a peaceful, independent nation. I pray for the continued progress of the country and the peace and happiness of all the people of Zambia. Our association is based on the founding philosophy of the ECC Foreign Language Institute, the charter body of the fellowship: "It is our goal, through the teaching of foreign languages, to contribute to the development of our students' capabilities, international awareness and leadership qualities. In this way, we hope to promote more interaction and understanding among the peoples of the world, thus helping to contribute to world peace."

I hope through working together to promote bilateral friendship, mutual understand-

ing, and further interactions, ties between the Republic of Zambia and Japan continue to grow. The Republic of Zambia left an everlasting impression on Japan when they entered the Olympic Stadium as an independent nation during the closing ceremony of the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games. We hope to foster stronger ties between Japan and Zambia in the lead up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.

With this in mind, our association has carried out various activities to promote mutual understanding and to form bonds of friendship between the people of Zambia and the people of Japan. This year we delivered textbooks and books to the Zambian Embassy for Zambian secondary schools and the University of Zambia. This was made possible thanks to generous donations from ECC students, teachers and staff, as well as the general public, and the support of the ECC Save-the-Earth Campaign. The association also provided assistance at the Kansai Airport Travel Expo. We hope that more Japanese people will visit Zambia in the future and build long-lasting ties.

Once again, I'd like to offer congratulations on the 52nd anniversary of the independence of Zambia. It is the greatest pleasure for our association to attempt to serve the needs of the people of Zambia, even in our small way. With heartfelt wishes for an ever-brighter future, the association and the ECC Group of Schools will continue to make efforts in the hopes of strengthening and increasing the ties of friendship between our two nations, and throughout the world, with the ultimate objective of eliminating the three great human tragedies of war, poverty and disease.



The city of Lusaka's evening skyline EMBASSY OF ZAMBIA

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E-mail address: jat-tyo@jat.co.jp
URL: http://www.jat.co.jp/

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Toyota Zambia Ltd.

(Official Authorized Toyota Distributor in Zambia)
P.O. Box 33438, Cairo Rd., North End, Lusaka, ZAMBIA
TEL: +260-1-229109 FAX: +260-1-223846

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JAPAN-ZAMBIA FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

Head Office
ECC General Headquarters Bldg. 3F
1-10-20 Higashi-temma, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0044
TEL: (06) 6352-3144 FAX: (06) 6352-3599
Email: zambia@ecc.co.jp

Tokyo Office
ECC Tokyo Headquarters Bldg. 9F
7-6-4 Nishi-shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0023

Nagoya Office
ECC Chubu District Management Center
Kanayama Bldg. 8F
1-16-16 Kanayama, Naka-ku, Nagoya 460-0022

Fukuoka Office
ECC Tenjin-IMS School
IMS 10F, 1-7-11 Tenjin, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka 810-0001

www.ecc.co.jp