

Chile National Day Special

'Fruitful relationship' continues expansion across new fields

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AMBASSADOR OF CHILE



Chile celebrates today the 208th anniversary of its independence. I would like to take this opportunity to express my greetings and wishes for prosperity to Their

Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, the Imperial family, the government and the generous people of Japan.

This year marks a new approach to the diplomatic relationship between Chile and Japan. In February, these links were upgraded to a strategic partnership. Thanks to the pro-

lific work between both governments, it has become evident that this fruitful relationship is strong enough to venture into novel fields. For that purpose, some new routes have been put on the agenda such as education and innovation.

On education, we are committed to discovering and enhancing new forms of knowledge between our societies, a keystone required by the global agenda for constructing a future together. For that purpose, we are working with Japanese universities to extend their scholarship programs to Chile. The possibilities for Chilean undergraduates, graduates and Ph.D. candidates to continue their education in Japan is a reality. Also, the number of Japanese students and academics going to Chile has shown a constant increase in the last several years. Likewise, the entry into

force of the working holiday program this year will allow 200 young Chilean and Japanese people to visit and work in our countries every year.

Innovation is an exciting topic. Japan is a country where innovation can be found everywhere. In every city of this wonderful country, we can find small and medium-sized enterprises, corporations and academic entities that work tirelessly in researching and constructing new developments, both for industry and the common people. Chile has recognized that we are in the middle of the "Fourth Industrial Revolution," and that we must be an active part of it, so artificial intelligence, robotics and a futuristic view of society is the path to follow. For example, our country is eager to learn from the Japanese experience regarding innovation applied to aging

policies. The government of President Sebastian Pinera has made facing the challenges derived from an aging population a priority. For that purpose, first lady Cecilia Morel is leading a program called Positive Aging, promoting the full integration of elderly citizens into society, with better quality standards for their life expectancy.

In the global economy, Chile has been an outstanding voice for promoting free trade. We are fully committed to the entry into force of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, and we have joined with Japan against protectionism, pursuing free trade within the rule of law and fair competition. This year we were invited to participate in the Group of 20 summit, a privilege that we understand as recognition of our efforts.



President of the Republic of Chile Sebastian Pinera is now in his second term of office. He previously served from 2010 to 2014.
EMBASSY OF CHILE

Finally, I would like to thank the Japanese companies that invest in Chile. They are old friends and we have mutual respect and trust. They have been absolutely fundamental to the recent Chilean economic development. We are proud that these corporations are willing to explore possibilities in new fields such as solar energy, water distribution and astron-

omy, to name just a few examples.

The bond between Chile and Japan is strong and there is tremendous potential to continue working together in the future.

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



Top: Osorno Volcano is one of the most active volcanoes in the southern Chilean Andes. Above: A solar plant in northern Chile. EMBASSY OF CHILE

Congratulations
on the 208th Anniversary
of the Republic of Chile's
Independence



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Congratulations

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on the 208th Anniversary of
Their Independence

 JX Nippon Mining & Metals

<http://www.nmm.jx-group.co.jp/english>

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