

Mozambique National Day Special

Various avenues of cooperation cultivate close partnership, economic growth

JOSE MARIA MORAIS
AMBASSADOR OF MOZAMBIQUE



Today, Mozambique celebrates its National Day, a day that commemorates the 44th Anniversary of Independence. On this historical day, I would like, on behalf of the Government of Mozambique and

myself, to present the warmest congratulations to the Mozambican community residing in Japan and wish them happy

commemorations.

I am honored to make use of this auspicious opportunity to convey my respectful and sincere greetings to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, the imperial family and to pay our respects to the Japanese government and friendly people of Japan.

Over the past 44 years, Mozambican people have faced immense challenges. This year, cyclones Idai and Kenneth caused so much destruction in our country. We would like to express our gratitude to the people and government of Japan for assistance extended to victims in need.

Today, Mozambique continues grow-

ing as a democratic nation. With decades of strong economic growth and single-digit inflation, the foundations of our economy have strengthened and the country is more resilient, attracting foreign and national investment.

This is due to the successful choices we have made — the hard work, commitment and determination of our people to build a better Mozambique, as well as assistance from development partners including Japan.

During recent decades, bilateral relations have strengthened to today's comprehensive cooperation. Japan is one of our significant partners due to important developmental initiatives and investments.

Japan is implementing projects in several sectors of Mozambique — namely agriculture, education, energy, health, human capital and infrastructure development. Japanese companies have made important investments in strategic areas such as energy development and mineral resources as well as infrastructure. One recent finalized investment decision is that of an international consortium that includes Mitsui & Co. on plans being developed for liquefied natural gas production. Considered one of the largest foreign investments in the African continent, it bears witness to an existing confidence in Mozambique and in its future. Another avenue for cooperation between

our two countries is the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD). We look forward to its seventh conference this year in Yokohama.

Once again, I present my warmest grati-

tude to the Japanese government for all their support of Mozambique. Together we will build a stronger partnership through increased investments and significant growth in trade.

We would like to express our gratitude to the people and government of Japan for assistance extended to victims in need.

AMBASSADOR OF MOZAMBIQUE JOSE MARIA MORAIS

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

Hopes for even closer bonds Rise in private sector investments

JUNZO YAMAMOTO
MOZAMBIQUE LIAISON, JAPAN-AFRICAN UNION PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE



I am ecstatic to celebrate Mozambique's 44th anniversary of independence.

As Mozambique's liaison in the Japan-African Union Parliamentary Friendship League,

I am working hard to develop bilateral Japan-Mozambique relations. In my role,

I have visited Mozambique several times and have also had ongoing talks with dignitaries visiting Japan.

This August, the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VII) will be held in Yokohama. It is my hope that this event will be recognized in its function as a meaningful workshop for discussing the future of Africa.

Mozambique has a special significance to me given her long-standing private exchanges with my own hometown in Matsuyama, Ehime Prefecture. I hope that our two countries will continue to develop even closer ties and vow personally to continue giving my all to this end.

MASAMI IJIMA
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-MOZAMBIQUE BUSINESS FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION



It is my great honor and privilege to extend my heartfelt greetings to the people of the Republic of Mozambique on the occasion of the 44th anniversary of its independence.

In view of the exceptionally good ties between Mozambique and Japan — this year marks the 42nd anniversary — investments from the Japanese private sector have also been increasing.

The Japan-Mozambique Business Friendship Association was established in 2015. Currently, 31 Japanese companies, all representing major industries, are members of our association. Our mission is to contribute to a mutually beneficial strengthening of relations between the two countries at the private sector level, based on the excellent relationship established by their respective governments. It is expected to be strengthened further by the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VII) to be held this summer in Yokohama.

I sincerely hope for the further prosperity of Mozambique and its citizens, and the further deepening of the unbreakable bonds between our two nations.

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