
Namibia National Day Special

Strong commitment to furthering relations

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AMBASSADOR OF NAMIBIA



As we celebrate the 30th Independence Anniversary of the Republic of Namibia on March 21, I am pleased to convey on behalf of the government and people of Namibia, our warmest regards to their

Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, the imperial family, as well as to the government and friendly people of Japan.

Namibia and Japan mark 30 years since the establishment of our diplomatic relations on March 21, 1990. These close bilateral relations continue to expand in many areas of cooperation such as trade, capacity building, tourism, agriculture, infrastructure development and education, to mention a few.

The government of Japan had worked closely with the government of Namibia in producing its strategic Master Plan for Development of an International Logistics Hub for SADC (South African Development Community) Countries in the Republic of Namibia from 2013 to 2015 at the port of Walvis Bay.

The two countries share common values and experiences on many international rela-

tions issues.

Both countries remain committed to enhancing these relations and taking them to higher levels. President of Namibia, Hage G. Geingob participated in The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development that was hosted in Yokohama in August.

During that visit the president held a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The two leaders agreed to continue broadening the scope of political relations and closer economic cooperation between their two countries.

With regards to the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo, Namibian athletes look forward to their participation in these world games as they will create extensive cultural and people-to-people exchanges. These bonds will build on the already established interactions when the Namibian National Rugby Team participated in the Rugby World Cup 2019 here in Japan. I would like to thank most sincerely the government and people of Japan for their legendary hospitality in receiving, welcoming and hosting our national rugby team.

I would like to cordially invite the Japanese people to our beautiful country Namibia. A peaceful and democratic country with breathtaking landscapes such as the Namib Desert, which is one of the oldest deserts on earth; spectacular sand dunes;

the awesome Fish River Canyon; Etosha National Park, with its fascinating wildlife; and towering mountain ranges.

Namibia has an open economy and is ready to do business. The economic growth trajectory is centered on a dynamic private sector and the country has a stable economy, which has successfully weathered international financial crises. Namibia provides numerous opportunities for international investors seeking a foothold and growth in the African continent, such as infrastructure and logistics services; land and housing; manufacturing and market access; agriculture; social enterprise; and tourism.

Namibia has hosted numerous international conferences and the 10th Pan-African Women's Organization (PAWO) Congress was recently convened in Windhoek, from Feb. 26 to 28. PAWO was held under the theme, "Accelerate African Women's Action toward Achieving Sustainable Economic Development within the Context of the UN Agenda 2030 and AU (African Union) Agenda 2063."

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the government and people of Japan and hope that the bonds of friendship between our two countries will continue to flourish.

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