

Mozambique National Day Special

Embracing ongoing development

JOSE MARIA MORAIS
AMBASSADOR OF MOZAMBIQUE



It is my great pleasure to address the readers of The Japan Times on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Mozambique, a day that celebrates the 45th anniversary of its independence.

On this historical date, I would like to present my warmest congratulations to the Mozambican community residing in Japan and wish them happy commemorations.

On this auspicious occasion, I have the honor, on behalf of the government of Mozambique, to extend our warmest and respectful greetings and sincere wishes of good health and happiness to their Imperial Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako and the imperial family. We pay our respects to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, the Japanese government and the friendly people of Japan.

Today, the entire world faces an unprecedented common challenge, the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been posing major challenges to people and governments globally, including Mozambique. On a sad note, we would like to extend to the government of Japan, our condolences and solidarity for the victims of this disease. Additionally, I would like to express our appreciation for the domestic management of the pandemic and for its international active role in contributing to its containment.

The government of Mozambique has been making every effort to prevent the spread of infection, benefiting from solidarity initiatives from the international community that, together with national efforts, enable us to contain the negative effects of this pandemic.

As we celebrate the independence of Mozambique, we recall the sacrifices of the founders of our nation, who heroically fought for independence. We take pride in the glories of the past, cherish the achievements of the present and reaffirm our determination to work for the socioeconomic development of the country.

After 45 years, the Republic of Mozambique is facing the future with confidence, continuing its path to development, improving the lives of its people, strengthening its institutions and maturing as a democratic nation. To ensure sustainable socioeconomic development, the government has chosen the maintenance and consolidation of peace and stability as a central priority of its actions. Additionally, it has

identified employment creation, poverty reduction and greater economic competitiveness, through higher productivity and diversification, as important measures to achieve inclusive development that benefits the entire population.

With stability and decades of economic growth and low inflation, the foundations of the Mozambican economy are strong, continuing to be attractive to foreign and national investment. This is due to the successful developmental choices we have made, and the hard work, commitment and determination of our people to build a better Mozambique, as well as cooperation programs with our development partners, including Japan.

Throughout the past decades, the bilateral relations between our countries have strengthened and today, there is a comprehensive program of cooperation with important development initiatives and strategic investments in Mozambique.

At the bilateral level, Japan is implementing several projects in several sectors of our economy, namely agriculture, energy, health, human resources development and infrastructure. On the economic front, significant investments have been made in strategic



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi in Tokyo in March 2017 PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

areas of its development such as liquefied natural gas production in Rovuma Basin Area 1; it is considered the largest project finance in Africa, with the involvement of the Japanese government and private financial institutions, demonstrating the existing confidence in Mozambique and in its future.

Mozambique is committed to building a strong, stable and long-term strategic relationship with Japan. We believe that during the Reiwa Era, relations will develop further, bringing more prosperity to the existing partnership, with increased investment and growth in trade relations.

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

Actively promoting bilateral relationship

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

Please accept my congratulations on the 45th anniversary of the Republic of Mozambique's independence.

I have visited Mozambique a number of times as a member of the Japan-African Union Parliamentary Friendship League. I also met Minister of Economy and Finance Adriano Maleiane at the seventh



official development assistance Special Committee of the Upper House. It is unfortunate that during the anni-

versary of your independence both countries are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

There is a long-standing tradition of cultural exchange between Mozambique and my hometown, Matsuyama, Ehime Prefecture. For this reason, Japan-Mozambique relations have always had a special place in my heart. I am looking forward to a day when the pandemic is brought under control so we can turn our attention once more to promoting stronger relations that will benefit both countries.

While the world faces challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, I am confident we can work to overcome this global crisis together through continued, close cooperation.

Steadfast commitment to long-term cooperation

MASAMI IJIMA
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-MOZAMBIQUE BUSINESS FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

It is my tremendous honor and privilege to extend my heartfelt greetings to the people of the Republic of Mozambique on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of its independence. In January, President Filipe Jacinto Nyusi was inaugurated for his second term. This will undoubtedly ensure further prosperity and stability for Mozambique and its



Japan over the past year. In August, Minister of Economy and Finance Adriano Maleiane

esteemed citizens.


The Japan-Mozambique Business Friendship Association conducted various activities to strengthen the bilateral relationship between Mozambique and

visited Japan for the seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, where the Japanese private sector reaffirmed its commitment to promoting business in Africa. Our association held a magnificent reception for him, with executives from member companies and other guests.

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