

Zambia Independence Day Special

Investment interest growing in regional industry, trade hub

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AMBASSADOR OF ZAMBIA



I wish to reaffirm the strong bonds of friendship and cooperation that have characterized relations between Zambia and Japan for 56 years.

I also wish to convey greetings from the President of the Republic of Zambia, His Excellency Edgar Chagwa Lungu, to Their Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, the Prime Minister, His Excellency Yoshihide Suga, the people and

government of Japan.

Japan has continued to be a major contributor to the development of Zambia. This is done through direct investment and aiding the development of skilled individuals and capabilities in various disciplines, including transfers of knowledge and technology in the mining, education, health and agriculture sectors, among others.

I would like to reaffirm the Zambian government's appreciation of the development assistance received from Japan, including that helping Zambia to cope and alleviate coronavirus-related challenges.

On this 56th independence anniversary, Zambia commemorates with a deep sense of empathy to the global citizenry following the coronavirus pandemic that has

claimed millions of lives and destroyed livelihoods and economies.

Like many countries, Zambia has been negatively affected with some of the country's sectors facing various challenges. The coronavirus has been a real threat to Zambia's tourism sector and inflow of direct investment.

Despite these challenges, the government has instituted measures and strategies to flatten the coronavirus curve and ensure the country remains open for business while securing the safety of investors, tourists and citizens.

Zambia has recorded a relatively low number of cases, encouraging authorities to open all international airports, businesses and schools.

I am particularly delighted that a good number of Japanese enterprises still wish to explore Zambia's investment and tourism potential in this trying period.

This shows the growing interest and trust in Zambia's investment climate as the country sets out to be the regional hub for commerce and trade.



I wish to continue inviting and encouraging Japanese investors and potential travelers that Zambia awaits your visit. Zambia is blessed with abundant resources, and the Japanese private sector should

consider investing in this area. The country has vast opportunities in various sectors such as agribusiness and agro-processing; energy; mining; manufacturing; tourism; science and technology.

Zambia is home to abundant wildlife, including giraffes.
EMBASSY OF ZAMBIA

Further promotion of bilateral ties and understanding

KATSUMI YAMAGUCHI
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I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations on the 56th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Zambia. Since the founding of the Japan-Zambia Friendship Association in 1975, it is a great honor to join the people of Zambia in celebrating Independence Day each year.

On behalf of the Japan-Zambia Friendship Association, students and staff from

the ECC Group, and the people of Japan, I am sincerely pleased to extend our warmest congratulations to His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, Her Excellency Ambassador of Zambia to Japan Ndiyoi Muliwana Mutiti, and our love and friendship to all the people of the peace-loving country of Zambia.

I am very impressed to see Zambia making steady strides as a peaceful, independent nation. I hope working together to promote bilateral friendship and mutual understanding, ties between Zambia and Japan continue to grow as outlined in 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."

ECC's definition of a true internationally minded person is a friend who can feel another's pain as their own and is willing to share that burden. We would like to make every effort to help create more internationally minded friends, who contribute to global peace.

With sincere wishes for an ever-brighter future, we pray for everyone's health and well-being in these challenging times due to the coronavirus.

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

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