## Burkina Faso National Day Special

## Sincere gratitude for unwavering support

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AMBASSADOR OF BURKINA FASO



This year, on Dec. 11, Burkina Faso celebrates the 60th anniversary of its independence. The theme of this year's celebration is "National Cohesion and Patriotic Commitment for Sus-

tainable Development in Burkina Faso in a Context of Insecurity and COVID-19."

This theme invites a national patriotic leap regarding the numerous challenges to be taken up, including the fight against terrorism and the coronavirus.

The year that ends was marked by the tireless efforts of the Burkinabe government in the implementation of the National Economic and Social Development Plan. With the unwavering support of our development partners, including Japan, it was possible to achieve satisfactory results in the strategic sectors of health, security, agriculture, infrastructure, education and democracy, among others.

In terms of democracy, Burkina Faso, with help from its strategic partners, including Japan, organized free and transparent presidential elections on Nov. 22. The results saw the victory of incumbent President H.E. Roch Marc Christian Kabore, candidate of the Movement of People for Progress, elected for a second term. The successful organization of the elections was recognized and praised by the international community.

In 2020, our bilateral cooperation maintained and strengthened its dynamism, as evidenced by Japan's assistance in Burkina Faso for internally displaced persons in our country and in the fight against COVID-19.

Despite the Tokyo Olympic Games post-

ponement to 2021, Burkina Faso is preparing to participate with a dozen athletes in the disciplines of swimming, boxing, judo, karate, tae kwon do and athletics.

For the coming year 2021, the prospects for our bilateral and multilateral cooperation are good. In this regard, the Burkinabe government wishes the realization of new projects, as well as the strengthening of our rich cooperation.

Our two countries' governments share a common vision based on a world of peace, freedom and progress.

Allow me to express our sincere gratitude to the government and people of Japan for their collective and constant support for Burkina Faso's development efforts.

Thank you.

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