

Djibouti National Day Special

Gateway to solidarity and trade

AHMED ARAITA ALI
AMBASSADOR OF DJIBOUTI



The Republic of Djibouti will celebrate the 44th anniversary of the June 27, 1977, proclamation of its independence.

I want to convey the warm greetings of President of the Republic of Djibouti

H.E Ismail Omar Guelleh, as well as his best wishes for health and happiness to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako on his ascension to the imperial throne. I also would like to express my best wishes to the members of the imperial family, and peace and prosperity to the friendly people and the government of Japan.

After more than a year, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose serious challenges to global health and all countries have been working to mitigate the disruption by strengthening health services.

Unprecedented global solidarity was organized and Japan was among the first to contribute to the funding of essential medical supplies. Despite this progress, current trends show that the struggle is far from over. Vaccines will help us end the COVID-19 pandemic, but only if we ensure equitable access for all countries.

The government of Japan continues to support my country by providing medical equipment and supplies as needed, and we are very grateful.

Our president was re-elected for a five-year term in the presidential election on April 9, and a new government assumed office on May 24.

For the past two decades, the transport



President Ismail Omar Guelleh
DJIBOUTI EMBASSY

and logistics sectors have played a key role in Djibouti's development strategy and are booming as a result. Djibouti's growth should reach 7% this year after a recession in 2020 linked to the pandemic.

Djibouti, a well-connected hub in the Horn of Africa, has become a particularly popular gateway for landlocked countries to reach the sea and for international investors to set foot in African markets. It is playing a role in unlocking Africa's potential through an extensive infrastructure network.

The successful development of our ports and logistics infrastructure has also strengthened our regional positioning.

In May, Djibouti Port was ranked the top container port in Africa and 61st globally in the Global Container Port Performance Index published by the World Bank and IHS Markit.

As African trade and Djiboutian development approach a new dawn, with the



African Continental Free Trade Area now a reality, Djibouti hopes to deepen its partnership with Japan.

Djibouti is ready to act as a gateway toward an integrated African economy. Japan can play a central role in this new chapter by investing in the potential of Djibouti and the rest of East Africa.

In the joy of celebrating the 44th anniversary of Djibouti's independence, I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the Japanese government and people for their valuable support and cooperation over the years.

Finally, I would like to wish a safe and secure Olympic Games in Japan next month.

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

Prefect of the Region of Dikhil Aden Moussa Darar (left), Ambassador Umio Otsuka (in suit) and Djibouti Minister for Transport Moussa Mohamed Ahmed (right) pose during the inauguration ceremony for National Road 1 in Djibouti on Dec. 6, 2020.

DJIBOUTI EMBASSY

Congratulations
to the People of the Republic of Djibouti
on the Anniversary of Their Independence



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A convoy of camels passes by Djibouti's Lake Assal, the lowest point on the African continent.

DJIBOUTI OFFICE OF
TOURISM

