

Kingdom of Morocco Throne Day Special

A bright outlook for economic development

RACHAD BOUHLAL
AMBASSADOR OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

July 30 marks the 22nd anniversary of the enthronement of H.M. King Mohammed VI. On this auspicious occasion, I would like to convey my respectful greetings to Their Majesties Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako, the other members of the imperial family, H.E. Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, the government and the friendly people of Japan.

Celebrating Morocco's National Day in Japan is a great opportunity to highlight



the lasting relations between Morocco and Japan, cemented by mutual respect and deep friendship between the Moroccan royal family and the Japanese imperial family.

The novel coronavirus has proven that international cooperation is vital to tackle the repercussions of the pandemic. In this respect, Morocco has implemented various solidarity actions, consisting of urgent medical aids that were airlifted to

over 20 African countries. Furthermore, on July 6, the first fill-finish manufacturing project for COVID-19 vaccination in Africa was launched in Morocco, paving the way for the kingdom to become a leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology platform in Africa.

COVID-19 has also affected the global economy. In this regard, Morocco has launched an ambitious economic recovery plan, with a budget of \$13.5 billion, equivalent to 11% of the country's gross domestic product. Its cornerstone is the Mohammed VI Strategic Investment Fund, which is playing a leading role in fostering the national economy's capacities. This plan places Morocco at the forefront in terms of post-crisis economic recovery policy.

As for industry, Morocco has set a three-year recovery plan starting this year that consists of three strategies: First, to confirm Morocco's industrial leadership by generating \$5.7 billion on the trade balance and creating 100,000 jobs. Second, to improve the country's competitiveness. Third, to position the country as a low-carbon industrial base.

With a plan to supply 1 million hectares of land for the benefit of investors, agriculture is also at the center of this recovery strategy.

This plan is expected to generate an investment volume totaling \$4.3 billion, with an annual added value equivalent to two additional points of GDP.

In May, the kingdom launched a new development model – a road map bringing together political parties, institutions and civil society to set up the new strategic development goals of the nation toward 2035. This model is a new phase in consolidating the social and economic policies of Morocco.

The Moroccan approach to sustainable development places active solidarity at the center of its priorities, in order to strengthen social cohesion. Thus, Morocco launched in April the national plan for the generalization of social security to all Moroccans, including health insurance, pension plans and family allowances.

To conclude, I would like to commend the excellence of the relations between Morocco and Japan, which have witnessed a steadfast development on all levels. I am glad to note that over the past 10 years, the number of Japanese companies operating in Morocco has more than doubled, reaching 75 companies, making Morocco the second-largest destination for Japanese companies in Africa. Furthermore, Japan is the largest foreign private employer in Morocco, generating more than 42,000 local jobs.

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



H.M. King Mohammed VI



Morocco aims to be a major low-carbon industrial base, and Noor (above), in Ouarzazate, is one of the largest solar power stations in the world. EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

Excellent relations at all levels

HIROFUMI NAKASONE
PRESIDENT, JAPAN-MOROCCO PARLIAMENTARY LEAGUE



On this occasion of the 22nd anniversary of the enthronement of HM King Mohammed VI, I am delighted to extend my sincere congratulations, on behalf of the Japan-

Morocco Parliamentary League to the king, the royal family and the people of the Kingdom of Morocco.

Since 1956, Japan and Morocco have

built excellent relations at all levels, including between the imperial and royal families. As the president of the Japan-Morocco Parliamentary League, I remain committed to contributing to the acceleration of parliamentary exchanges, thereby further enhancing our bilateral relationship.

As for the fight against COVID-19, I would like to express my sincere respect for Morocco's strong efforts against the pandemic under the leadership of the king Mohammed VI.

I would like to extend my sincere wishes for the prosperity of the people of Morocco, as well as for further development of the cordial relations between our two countries.

Strong ties untarnished by crisis

HARUKO HIROSE
PRESIDENT, JAPAN MOROCCO ASSOCIATION



On the occasion of Morocco's Throne Day, I would like to extend my sincere and heartfelt congratulations to His Majesty King Mohammed VI on behalf of all members of the Japan-

Morocco Association.

On this auspicious occasion, I would also like to express my sincere greetings to all members of the royal family, as well as to

the people and government of the Kingdom of Morocco.

We have been witnessing the sense of discipline, the spirit of solidarity and the responsibility shown by your citizens for dealing with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I truly hope that we will overcome the pandemic soon and the close relationship shared by our countries will continue and further develop our dialogue, trade, investments and friendship under his majesty's reign.

Congratulations

on the Anniversary of the Accession to the Throne of His Majesty King Mohammed VI

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