

Remarks of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to Zambia
on Follow-up Cooperation for the Project for the Improvement of
the Medical Equipment of the University Teaching Hospital
on Tuesday 25 July 2017

The Hon. Dr. Chitalu Chilufya, Minister of Health of the Republic of Zambia,
Dr. Clarence Chiluba, Senior Medical Superintendent, Adult Hospital of the
University Teaching Hospital,
Senior Government Officials,
Mr. Junichi Hanai, Resident Representative, JICA Office, Zambia,
Representatives from the Media,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour and pleasure to say a few words on the Follow-up
Cooperation for the Project for the Improvement of the Medical Equipment of
the University Teaching Hospital.

At the outset, I would like to express my sincere sympathy to those who lost
their shops by the fire in the Lusaka City Market on the 4th of this month.
I humbly hope for their recovery and the restoration of the market.

At TICAD VI, that is the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African
Development, held in Nairobi, Kenya in August last year, Prime Minister
Shinzo Abe of Japan attached importance to promoting resilient health
systems for quality of life, to achieve universal health coverage, and create
“Resilient Africa”, among other priority issues.

The University Teaching Hospital, or the UTH, which is a Third Level
Hospital, is indeed the top level hospital in Zambia, and Japan has been
cooperating to the UTH through JICA more than 30 years.

This time Japan has cooperated to address the problems relating to the 1983
project for D Block/Neonatal Ward including the Neonatal Intensive Care
Unit, as well as the medical equipment provided through the projects
implemented between 2009 and 2011 for the Operation Theatre, the

Intensive Care Unit, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the Department of Pediatrics.

We extended about 23 million 880 thousand Yen, or around 2 million Kwacha, and procured the necessary parts of the Patient Monitors at D Block/Neonatal Ward and the Operation Theatre, and introduced Voltage Regulators for Infant Resuscitaires and Stand-by Generators at D Block/Neonatal Ward.

We believe that for Zambia to continue to achieve further development in a sustainable manner, the strengthening of the health sector is important, among other sectors.

Therefore, the Government of Japan intends to contribute to this process in cooperation with its private sector, in various ways, including promoting further introduction of high quality Japanese medical equipment to Zambia.

In conclusion, I hope that, with our new cooperation, the UTH will continue to play an essential role in promoting universal health coverage in Zambia and will remain a symbol of friendship between Japan and Zambia.

Thank you.