

Check against delivery

Remarks by H.E. Mr. Ryuta Mizuuchi on the Occasion of the Ceremony
of Presentation of Letter of Credence, at the State House, Lusaka, on
December 12th, 2019

Your Excellency, Dr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of
Zambia,

Nakondwela ku bwela muno mu chalo cha Zambia.

First, let me convey to your Excellency the message of His Majesty the
Emperor of Japan. He said, he would like to see the friendly relations
between our two countries further developed and strengthened through
my mission. And I will do my best to make that happen.

To start my duties here, I am reminded of a couple of things:

Nalamilondolwela....

Your Excellency, you told my predecessor that his successor, this being
myself, should continue from what he had achieved. Of this, I am aware. I
also recall that Your Excellency visited Japan twice within 8 months. And
you talked with our Prime Minister Abe, among other things, about the plan
to upgrade the Luangwa Bridge. Further, I recall the outcome of the
TICAD7. Its message is that Japan will focus business to turn to African
countries in the future.

Now, it means that I have come to Zambia at a critical turning point.

Why? Because I need to ask our businesspeople to consider expanding
to Zambia. Or, there are companies who are already in business with
Zambia. I need to convince them that their engagement will be duly
rewarded. I am hoping to be able to do so as soon as I start to discharge
my responsibility. For the interest of my people, and for the benefit of the
Zambians. I hope Your Excellency will support me in this regard.

As Your Excellency is leading Zambia to become an upper middle-income

country by 2030, I would most gladly like to work together with the Zambian Government under your guidance towards this goal.

I am lucky, too, to have many examples of fruitful cooperation. JICA overseas volunteers, for example – they had the honor to be received by Your Excellency and guided to the giraffe of the State House. Young Zambians are committed to Japanese culture such as anime and manga. Today, I am dressed to meet the interest of these young people. Around my Residence, I see young schoolchildren walking and chatting happily on the way to their schools. Their eyes are shining, full of hope. Indeed, just like the abundant sunshine that this country is blessed with, Zambia is full of potentials that can lead to sustainable development. And we would be happy to do whatever we can to help Zambia achieve that goal. In international fora such as the United Nations, let us work closely together as partners to enable our common objectives to come true, in peace building, UN reforms and beyond.

Last but not least, I wish to express my sincere wishes for Your Excellency's continued success, good health and strong leadership for the sake of this great nation, Zambia.

Now I have the honor to present to Your Excellency the letter of my credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Zambia and the letter of recall of my predecessor.

Zikomo kwambili ndithu.