

**REMARKS BY H.E. MR. KIYOSHI KOINUMA, AMBASSADOR  
OF JAPAN TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, AT THE  
PREMIERE EVENING OF JAPAN FILM FESTIVAL,  
STER-KINEKOR ARCADES, LUSAKA,  
20<sup>th</sup> September, 2016**

Mr. Stephen Mwansa, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism  
and Arts,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all and thank you most sincerely for attending the 10<sup>th</sup> Japan Film Festival. The Embassy of Japan started this Film Festival in 2005 with a view to promoting a better understanding of Japanese culture and arts in Zambia. Since then, a total of 26 Japanese films have been put on the screen and enjoyed by thousands of people.

Over the next three days, we are going to present the opportunity to watch three different Japanese films, which were highly acclaimed in Japan and overseas countries. Tonight, we present to you “SILVER SPOON” produced in 2014. This movie depicts a city-bred boy growing up through dairy training in an agricultural high school. You will also see a vast landscape and rich natural surroundings of Hokkaido which is located in the northern part of Japan. I hope this movie will transport you on a trip to Japan and afford you with a rich and meaningful cultural experience.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since Zambia’s independence, Japan has remained an all-weather friend to Zambia, and the two countries have maintained a cordial and steadfast relationship. We would like to continue to promote

interaction of people between our two countries, not only in economic fields, but also in the fields of culture, arts and sports. It is my sincere hope that you will learn about Japan and get a better understanding about Japanese culture after watching the film.

In closing, I would like to once again thank you all for attending this premiere night of Japan Film Festival 2016. Please enjoy the film show this evening.

Thank you.