

**REMARKS BY MR. SHUICHI SAKAKIBARA,
CHARGÉS D'AFFAIRES AD INTERIM OF JAPAN TO THE REPUBLIC
OF ZAMBIA,
ON THE OCCASION OF SIGNING THE GRANT CONTRACT
WITH VILLAGE WATER ZAMBIA, ON 10th OCTOBER, 2016**

Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to be here today at this signing ceremony for the Grant Contract between the Embassy of Japan and Village Water Zambia. Today, the Government of Japan is pleased to provide a Grant amounting to 197,894 US Dollars in order to implement **The Project for the Construction of a Water Supply System in Mangango, Kaoma District, Western Province.**

This Grant has been provided under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects Programme of the Government of Japan. The programme was introduced in Zambia in 1990. The primary objective of this programme is to support various development and human security projects at the grassroots level. Until now, more than 160 projects have been funded and implemented in this country.

The recipient organization, Village Water Zambia was established in 2005 to support communities to access clean and safe water. After the establishment, it has

constructed more than 453 wells and supported communities to enhance ownership, household sanitation, or maintenance of facilities.

However, at Mangango in Western Province, citizens do not have an access to clean and safe water since some wells dried up or pumps for the wells are not working. For this reason, small children and women have to carry water from Luena River which runs through Mangango area. Many children have to drop out of school for this labor. In addition, the use of unsafe water causes infectious diseases such as diarrhea, Bilharzia, eye infection, intestinal worms. Even though the Government of Zambia aims to improve water sanitation in the country, 4.8 million people, which is one third of Zambian population, do not have an access to clean and safe water.

In order to improve water sanitation in this country, the Government of Japan is pleased to support the implementation of The Project for the Construction of a Water Supply System in Mangango, Kaoma District, Western Province. The project enables 8,112 citizens in Mangango area to access clean and safe water. As a result of this, it is expected that the incidence of infectious diseases will be reduced and the well-being and health of the people will be enhanced.

This project is going to be implemented in cooperation with a Japanese private company, YAMAHA MOTOR. Village Water Zambia is going to introduce YAMAHA MOTOR's water supply system. YAMAHA MOTOR is going to contribute by sending its technicians for the installation of the equipment and providing training for the people in the community for maintenance. YAMAHA

MOTOR is one of the representative Japanese companies, which is well-known in the sphere of motors for bikes or boats. In addition, the company has installed water supply systems in several African countries. It is a great pleasure that Japanese companies with high-technology and experience for community development expand their business to improve social welfare in Zambia. Through implementing this project, I hope more Japanese companies would contribute to the development of Zambia.

We held TICAD VI on 27th and 28th in Nairobi, Kenya. As we declared, Japan will support African countries to promote resilient health systems for quality of life, to tackle infectious diseases, or to respond to public health crises.

Japanese people have been supporting the economic and social development of Zambia since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1964. It is my sincere hope that the facility will be fully utilised in a sustainable manner. I hope this project will benefit the people of Zambia and then the bilateral relationship between Zambia and Japan will be further accentuated.

Thank you for your attention.

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