

Statement of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to Zambia
at the Handover Ceremony of a Japanese Television Program
on 17th March, 2017 in Lusaka

Mr. Angel Phiri, General Manager, MUVI TV,
Ms. Mubanga Mulenga, Programs Manager, MUVI TV,
Representatives from the Media,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good morning.

It is my honour and pleasure to hand over a Japanese TV program to MUVI TV.

For the purpose of introducing the Japanese culture and values to the people overseas through TV programs, the Japan Foundation has a scheme to bear the costs of the broadcasting rights fees and of the production of the audio-visual materials.

Since 2008, Japan has continuously provided Japanese TV programs to major TV stations in Zambia, and MUVI TV has received 9 programs from 2010 until last year.

The TV Program to be provided this time is “Hanako and Anne” that is a drama based on a true story of Ms. Hanako Muraoka, who translated into Japanese the book “Anne in Green Gables”, a world famous Canadian literature.

The Program was broadcast in Japan in 2014, and I saw it myself. The heroine made great efforts to succeed in her work and in raising her children, when it was still very rare for women to work outside their houses.

As both the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Zambia are taking measures for women to become more active in various fields in the society, this story may be viewed with much interest here in Zambia, too.

I hope that this TV Program will be viewed as many Zambians as possible to contribute to deepening understanding of Japan by Zambians and help broadening the exchanges between Zambia and Japan, to further strengthen the friendship between Zambia and Japan.

I have already seen a number of shining women in Zambia.
But I hope that many many more shining women like Hanako will be there in Zambia, after the broadcasting of this program.

Thank you.