

Remarks of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Zambia at the Signing Ceremony for the Project for the Construction of Mpunde Secondary School in Kabwe District, Central Province on Friday 2 February 2018

Sr. Vielar Hamatu, Head Teacher, and Members of Mpunde Primary School,
Representatives from the Media,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour and pleasure to represent the Government of Japan at this Signing Ceremony for a project of Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects by the Government of Japan, for the Construction of Mpunde Secondary School in Kabwe District, Central Province, amounting to up to US\$ 68,575, or 655,229 Zambian Kwacha.

TICAD VI, held in Nairobi, Kenya, in August 2016, attached importance to human resources development to promote economic diversification and industrialization in Africa to create “Quality Africa”, among other priority issues.

Mpunde Primary School established in 2000, currently accepts more than 1000 pupils from pre-school to grade 9, but with the increase of the number of children in the area, needs more classrooms.

Also, as Mpunde area in Kabwe District, among other areas, has a large population, it is in need not only of primary education, but also of secondary education.

Under the circumstances, Mpunde Primary School formulated a proposal of construction of its Secondary School with 3 classrooms and furniture, and requested the Government of Japan to fund its construction.

We considered the proposal and decided to respond positively.

When completed, the school will be able to accept about 150 additional pupils,

including of those for grades 10 to 12, in addition to the current coverage of up to grade 9.

I hope that this project will proceed smoothly to contribute to human resources development in Zambia, and create “Quality Zambia”.

Thank you.