

**Statement of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to the
Republic of Zambia at the Handover Ceremony of Chakwela Makumbi
Primary School in Chipapa Area, Lusaka Province
on Thursday 22 February 2018**

Ms. Giorgia Marchitelli, Chairperson, Mr. Matteo Sametti, Director, and
Members of Sport2Build,
Representative of Her Royal Highness Senior Chieftainess Nkomeshya
Mukamanbo II,
Madam Head of Mukwamba Village,
Honourable Ward Councillor,
Head Teacher and Teaching Staff of Chakwela Makumbi School,
Pupils of the School,
Local Leaders,
Residents in the Area,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour and pleasure to represent the Government of Japan, at this
handover ceremony of Chakwela Makumbi Primary School.

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.

Sport2Build was established in 2007 in Italy, and has been working for
holistic development of children in developing countries through sport
activities as well as primary education and healthcare services including
countermeasures against HIV/AIDS.

In 2014, Sport2Build constructed a facility for pre-school children here, with
the understanding and cooperation from Her Royal Highness the Senior
Chieftainess and the financial assistance from Germany.

While Sport2Build was engaged with the education of pre-school children in the area, for children for Grade 1 and upper grades, as there was no primary school around Mukwamba Village, with the nearest primary school located in more than two hours' walking distance from there, its access was not easy even in dry seasons and impossible in rainy seasons.

Thus Sport2Build prepared a proposal for building Chakwela Makumbi Primary School and requested Japan to assist it.

We considered and decided to extend US\$ 160,073 (1,533,347 Kwacha) for the construction of a new building with seven furnished classrooms and the procurement of agricultural tools for training purpose, and then Mr. Sametti and I signed a grant contract for this project about a year ago.

With the completion of this school building, we understand that about 180 children in the area are now able to receive primary education from Grade 1 to Grade 7.

Also, as a result of the procurement of such agricultural tools as forks and wheelbarrows, and the preparation of manuals for horticulture and nutrition, education of growing vegetables and keeping harvested vegetables fresh, and that of nutrition have become possible here.

Congratulations!

I hope that this school will contribute to creating "Quality Zambia" by its human resources development, and will develop to become a symbol of international cooperation and friendship between Zambia, Italy, Germany and Japan.

Thank you.