

Statement of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to the
Republic of Zambia at the Handover Ceremony of a Water Supply System in
Mangango, Kaoma District, Western Province, on 2 March 2018

Mrs. B.S. Muyambango, Assistant Secretary of Western Province,
Representing the Hon. Richard Kapita, the Provincial Minister,
The Hon. Naluwa Mwene, M.P. from Mangango Constituency,
Mr. Kennedy Liale Mubanga, Kaoma District Commissioner,
Mr. Abel Manangi, Principal Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation,
Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection,
The Prime Minister of His Royal Highness Chief Mutondo,
Mr. Steven Kayombo, Mangango Ward Councillor,
Mr. Mubiana Muyangwa, Representing Village Water Zambia,
Mr. Ryosuke Nishijima, Representing Yamaha Motor Company Ltd.,
Representatives from the Media,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour and pleasure to represent the Government of Japan, at this
handover ceremony of a Water Supply System in Mangango, Kaoma District,
Western Province.

TICAD VI, held in Nairobi, Kenya, in August 2016, attached importance to
promoting resilient health systems for quality of life, to create “Resilient
Africa”, among other priority issues.

Safe drinking water is one of the important elements of public health and
Resilient Africa.

According to the data collected at Health Centre in Mangango, only about
40% of about 12,000 residents of Mangango had access to hand pumps, and
majority of the residents depended on the Luena River for the water for their
living.

That had prevented many people, particularly women and children, in the
area from taking part in productive activities and attending schools, as they
had to spend a lot of their time and labor for collecting water.

What is worse, many people suffered from such diseases as diarrhoea, and skin, eye and respiratory infections, due to the lack of safe drinking water.

Under the circumstances, Village Water Zambia prepared a proposal to construct a Water Supply System in Mangango, and requested the Government of Japan to assist it.

We considered and decided to extend up to US\$ 197, 894 or 1,890,878
Zambian Kwacha for this purpose.

The water purification machine, the filter media, and the solar powered system were produced by a Japanese company Yamaha Motor Company Ltd., which has constructed the System and offered the training for its maintenance.

With the completion of this project, 8,112 people of 1,352 families as well as other people, from outside the communities, who visit here, will have access to the safe drinking water from this Water Supply System.
Congratulations!

I hope that this Water Supply System will be effectively utilized to benefit the people in Mangango Area for a long time, and will develop to become a symbol of friendship between Zambia and Japan.

Thank you.