Statement of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Zambia at the Handover Ceremony for the Project for the Construction of a New School Building at Kine Community School in Mumbwa, Central Province on Wednesday 18 April 2018

Mr. Felix Ndopu, Mumbwa District Commissioner,
Representative of His Royal Highness Chief Mumba,
Ms. Edess Mukuba, Chitambala Headwoman,
Mr. Richard N. Imasiku, Mumbwa District Education Board Secretary,
Pastor Reberiah K. Monde, Executive Director, Community for Human
Development and Mr. Monde,
Mr. Gershom Mengo, Head Master, Teachers and Pupils of Kine Community
School,
Area Councilliors, PTA Chairperson and Other Distinguished Guests,
Representatives from the Media,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour and pleasure to represent the Government of Japan at this Handover Ceremony, of a project of "Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects by the Government of Japan", i.e. the Project for the Construction of a New School Building at Kine Community School in Mumbwa, Central Province.

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.

We appreciate the activities of Community for Human Development, to expand primary education including the establishment of Kine Community School in Mumbwa, to fight HIV/AIDS, and to empower the youth and women, among its other activities.

Chitambala Village in which Kine Community School had been established, saw a significant increase of the number of the children who needed education, and the school suffered from the insufficient space for its education and the lack of a staff room, and thus Community for Human Development requested the Government of Japan to consider assistance.

We considered and decided to extend up to US\$ 76,956 or 714,999 Kwacha for the purpose of constructing a new building with three class rooms and providing necessary furniture in January last year.

With the completion of the construction of the new building, the school is now able to accommodate 120 additional children from pre-school to Grade 7, in addition to the existing pupils from Grade 1 to Grade 6, and provide a room for the teaching staff to prepare for their classes, to eventually benefit a total of about 480 children.

Congratulations!

I hope that the expanded Kine Community School will contribute to human resources development in Zambia, and to creating "Quality Zambia", and thus will develop to become a symbol of friendship between Japan and Zambia.

Thank you.