

**Statement of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan  
to the Republic of Zambia at the Plascon Anti Mosquito Paint Launch  
on Monday 1 October 2018**

The Hon. Vincent Mwale, Minister of Local Government of the Republic of Zambia,

Mr. Likando Kalaluka, Attorney General of Zambia,

Dr. Kennedy Malama, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health,

Mr. Hiroshi Ishino, President, and Other Executives and Officials of Kansai Paint Co., Ltd. who have come over from Japan,

Mr. Prejay Lalla, CEO, Kansai Plascon Africa,

Mr. Dilip Munasinghe, General Manager, Kansai Plascon Zambia,

Mr. Junichi Hanai, Chief Representative, JICA Zambia Office,

Senior Government Officials,

Representatives from the Media,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour and pleasure to say a few words at this Plascon Anti Mosquito Paint Launch.

TICAD VI, that is the 6<sup>th</sup> Tokyo International Conference on African Development, held in Nairobi, Kenya in August 2016, attached importance to promoting resilient health systems for quality of life, to achieve universal health coverage, and create “Resilient Africa”, among other priority issues.

Japan has conducted cooperation in the health sector of Zambia, in such specific fields as maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, and other infectious diseases, by constructing hospitals and other health facilities and providing medical equipment including to the UTH, as well as technical cooperation including capacity building regarding medical equipment and prevention and treatment of diseases in various ways.

Currently the Project for Upgrading Lusaka Health Centres to District Hospitals Phase 2, covering the Health Centres at Kanyama, Chawama and Chipata, with the grant assistance from the Government of Japan of around 400 million Kwacha is under way, after its Phase 1 Project of around 200

million Kwacha which built the First Level Hospitals at Chilenge and Matero.

Also, the grant project of around 20 million Kwacha, to provide quality x-ray equipment to a total of 13 hospitals throughout Zambia, is under way.

As for malaria, due to the efforts made in this country, the number of those who died of malaria decreased from 4 thousand people in 2009 to 2,360 people in 2015, among other achievements.

However, malaria has remained one of the largest causes of the mortality and one of the most serious health challenges in Zambia.

Under the circumstances, Kansai Paint which is the parent company of Kansai Plascon, developed anti mosquito paints, and JICA decided to cooperate with Kansai Paint to undertake the “Collaboration Program with the Private Sector for Disseminating Japanese Technologies for KANSAI Anti Mosquito and SHIQUY Anti-Microbial Paints: a private-public sector collaboration program using health care paint technology for the prevention of malaria and infectious diseases in Zambia”.

Then an anti-malaria paint study has been conducted to confirm the effects of the paints.

I look forward to hearing good news, hoping that this initiative will significantly assist the efforts of Zambia to eliminate malaria.

We believe that for Zambia to continue to achieve further development in a sustainable manner, the strengthening of the health sector is important, among other sectors.

Therefore, the Government of Japan intends to contribute to this process in cooperation with its private sector, in various ways, including promoting further introduction of high quality Japanese medical technology to Zambia, just like this case.

In conclusion, I hope that the anti mosquito paints will help Zambia fight and conquer malaria, and to contribute to achieving universal health coverage in Zambia, and to creating “Resilient Zambia”.

Thank you.