

Remarks of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Zambia at the Nutrition and Spirulina Event at Prince Takamado Primary School on Thursday 29 November 2018

Ms. Bessie Chelemu, Director of Sports, Ministry of Youth, Sport, and Child Development of the Republic of Zambia,

Ms. Lynn Walker, Director, BSNP,

Mr. Kohsuke Hara, Programme Manager, Alliance Forum Foundation,

Ms. Maureen Chitundu, Acting Executive Director, PAM,

Mr. Victor Banda, President, Handball Association of Zambia,

Ms. Shirly Ngandu, Head, Plant Science Department, School of Agricultural Science, UNZA,

Teachers and Pupils of Prince Takamado Primary School,

Representatives from the Media,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour and pleasure to say a few words at this Nutrition and Spirulina Event.

At the outset, I would like to thank Prince Takamado Primary School for hosting this event, and BSNP, Alliance Forum and other organizations and individuals for their contribution to the Spirulina Projects and participation here today.

TICAD VI, that is the 6th 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.

Nutrition is a very important component of health.

Thus we appreciate the activities of Alliance Forum which has been implementing the Spirulina Projects since 2012 in various places in Zambia, with a view to establishing a success story of nutrition through Spirulina in

Zambia, and spreading the Spirulina nutrition over the COMESA countries and beyond.

Here in Lusaka, Alliance Forum has been cooperating with BSNP to provide Spirulina to be included in the school lunch for about 600 children.

In a separate development, a group of Japanese people have been supporting and assisting the Zambian Handball Team.

Finding that they need more nutrition, and in view of the gradually approaching 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, Alliance Forum has decided to provide Spirulina also to the Handball Team.

So today's programme reflects these developments, and I look forward to enjoying the programme.

In conclusion, I hope that, the various Spirulina Projects implemented by Alliance Forum in cooperation with its partner organizations, will contribute to promoting universal health coverage in Zambia and create resilient Zambia.

Thank you.