

Statement of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to the
Republic of Zambia at the Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of
Cooperation for Japan's "Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative"
on 26 August 2019

The Hon. Dr. Chitalu Chilufya, Minister of Health of the Republic of
Zambia,
The Permanent Secretary and Other Senior Government Officials Present,
Representatives from the Media,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour and pleasure to represent the Government of Japan at this
signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Cooperation for Japan's "Africa
Health and Wellbeing Initiative".

This MOC is connected to TICAD7 which will be held in Yokohama, Japan
from Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 this week, in which H.E. Dr. Edgar
Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia will be participating.

TICAD7 whose theme is "Advancing Africa's Development through People,
Technology, and Innovation" has the 3 pillars of (1) Accelerating economic
transformation and improving business environment through innovation
and private sector engagement, (2) Deepening sustainable and resilient
society, and (3) Strengthening peace and stability.

"Deepening sustainable and resilient society" requires measures for health,
and Japan that is determined to cooperate with African countries to achieve
universal health coverage, has selected Zambia as one of the first several
key African countries for the implementation of this "Africa Health and
Wellbeing Initiative" for the Government and the private sector of Japan to
intensively cooperate in the health sector of the partner country.

While hoping for the successful conclusion of TICAD7 with the participation
of H.E. Dr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia, I
sincerely hope that this initiative will contribute to Zambia's development

through people, technology and innovation.

Thank you.