

Statement of Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima, Ambassador of Japan to the
Republic of Zambia at the Ceremony of Exchanging Notes on the Economic
and Social Development Programme on Tuesday 27 August 2019

The Hon. Dr. Bwalya Ng'andu, Minister of Finance of the Republic of
Zambia,
Permanent Secretaries 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 Grant Assistance from the Government of Japan to
the Government of the Republic of Zambia for the Economic and Social
Development Programme for the purpose of procuring health centre kits of
essential drugs, amounting to up to 300 million Japanese Yen or almost 3
million US Dollars.

This grant assistance from the Government of Japan is connected to
TICAD7 which will be held in Japan from tomorrow 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, is aware of the serious need for essential drugs in
Zambia, and thus has decided to extend this grant assistance.

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 grant assistance will contribute to Zambia's development through people, technology and innovation.

Thank you.