



Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Zambia

Remarks by H.E. Mr. TAKEUCHI Kazuyuki, Ambassador of Japan,
at the Ceremony of Presentation of the Letter of Credence
1st February 2023, at the State House

Your Excellency Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia,

It is a great honour for me to be here today and present to Your Excellency the letter of credence as the Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Zambia.

First and foremost, please allow me to convey the message from His Majesty the Emperor of Japan to Your Excellency. His Majesty sincerely hopes the friendly relationship between our two countries to be further enhanced.

Zambia and Japan have been enjoying a long time of friendship throughout 59 years of independence of Zambia. This magnificent relationship has gained another momentum by the outstanding leadership of Your Excellency, which transformed this great country, Zambia, into one of the most reliable partners in the African continent. The most significant mission for me is to advance the bilateral relationship to a new stage, and to this end, to establish firm and reliable ties with Your Excellency.

Excellency, almost two years ago, Zambian people successfully achieved a smooth transition of power to your government, through truly democratic elections. Despite the difficult financial situation, the New Dawn Government is advancing various socio-economic reforms and anti-corruption initiatives. Placing the fundamental values of freedom and democracy at the core, your government has been strengthening the ties with the international partners.

As an old friend and longstanding partner of Zambia, there is no doubt that the mission of Japan is to support Zambia and Zambian people to address their own challenges, including economic difficulties, during this critical time. Zambia is demonstrating prominence in the international community through collective efforts of her people, and Japan will always be beside Zambia. As the Ambassador of Japan, I am more than ready to work with Your Excellency and to be the bridge between the two countries.

Now I have the honour to present to you the letter of recall of my predecessor, and the letter of my credence from His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

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