Remarks by H.E. Mr. TAKEUCHI Kazuyuki, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Zambia, On the Occasion of the Re-Launch of ZAJAMTA and the 2025-2027 Strategic Plan Launch

Friday, 9th May 2025

Good morning. Allow me to start by acknowledging the presence of,

Honourable Brenda Mwika Tambatamba, Minister of Labour and Social Security,

Mr. Shipango Muteto, ZAJAMTA President,

Representatives of the Association for Overseas Technical Cooperations and Sustainable Partnership (AOTS),

Senior government officials present,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure and honor to be here with you today, on behalf of the Government of Japan and be joined by Honourable Minister Brenda Mwika Tambatamba, on the occasion of the re-launch of the Zambia- Japan Management and Technical Association (ZAJAMTA) and the launch of the 2025-2027 Strategic Plan. I would sincerely like to thank ZAJAMTA for the invitation for this special occasion and I wish to commend everyone present here for the continued commitment to the Japan-Zambia collaboration.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to share that ZAJAMTA has sent and trained over 500 Zambian professionals in Japan. It is a great pleasure that you have chosen Japan for your training destination in the fields of technological and human resource development.

After World War II, Japan pursued reconstruction by focusing on human resource development. Japan's management style, including lifetime employment, continuous employee education, and a consensus-building culture that values on-the-ground opinions, supported its rapid economic growth. Japan has developed through a system where everyone can continuously grow. It is noteworthy that ZAJAMTA believed that these Japanese experiences could be applied to Zambia and would serve as a vital foundation for supporting human resource development and organizational development in the country.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to say that the relaunch of ZAJAMTA and the launch of the new Strategic Plan are major milestones in strengthening the friendship between Japan and Zambia, sharing Japanese management styles, and promoting Zambia's economic growth. I call upon the support of all stakeholders so that ZAJAMTA can continue to be an important platform that promotes practical learning and regional collaboration.

As all of you know, KAIZEN—a distinctive and well-regarded principle of Japanese management—places emphasis on continuous improvement, beginning with the ongoing development of human resources. I am hopeful that when these Japanese experiences are applied to Zambia, they will serve as crucial foundation for supporting human resource development and organizational growth.

As ZAJAMTA's activities were temporarily stalled due to COVID-19 pandemic in the past few years, I hope this re-launch and its new strategic plan will accelerate its activities including the initiative of doubling the

number of participants in training programs in Japan. Through continuous human resource development, I would like to see Zambia's workforce acquiring world-class skills and knowledge, and the combination of local talent and global expertise will contribute to Zambia's economic growth and a prosperous society.

With these few remarks, allow me to conclude by congratulating ZAJAMTA on its re-launch and the launch of the new strategic direction today. It is my pleasure to wish JAJAMTA success and best wishes in the implementation of the new plan and upcoming activities. Japan will continue to be a committed and proud partner of Zambia in its journey towards a sustainable and knowledge-based economy.

Thank you.

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