

REMARKS BY H.E. MR. AKIO EGAWA
AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
AT THE JOGMEC SEMINAR ON
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ZAMBIA'S MINING SECTOR
LUSAKA, 21ST JUNE, 2013

Hon. Christopher Yaluma, MP, Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Development,
Dr. Victor Mutambo, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water
Development,
Mr. Tetsuji Nagatomo, Executive Director, Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National
Corporation (JOGMEC),
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to join you today at the JOGMEC Seminar on
Sustainable Development of Zambia's Mining Sector. I am very glad to note that this
is the first ever JOGMEC Seminar to be held in Zambia. JOGMEC has had extensive
cooperation with African countries, including the training and other cooperative
activities of the JOGMEC Geological Remote Sensing Centre in Botswana.

I am particularly pleased to extend my congratulations to the Honourable Minister, Mr.
Christopher Yaluma, on his recent assumption of office of Minister of Mines, Energy
and Water Development. I am extremely appreciative of your presence here today,

Honourable Minister.

You may recall that the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan hosted the Japan-Africa Ministerial Meeting for Natural Resources Development, and Japan Sustainable Mining, Investment & Technology Business Forum on 16-18 May, 2013, in Tokyo, Japan. Then Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Development, Honourable Yamfwa Mukanga attended the meetings and gave an insightful speech as well as a presentation on Zambia's mining industry. Today's seminar is an outcome of the meetings in Tokyo.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This seminar will look into issues related to mine pollution. Although there is only one operating mine in Japan today, Japan used to have abundant mining operations inside the country, producing gold, silver, copper, coal and so forth. Looking back on history, Japan was once a major producer of copper ore in the world. Some of Japan's largest industrial groups like Hitachi, Sumitomo and Furukawa have their origins in copper mining dating back as far as to a few centuries ago. Mining played a significant role in Japan's industrialization.

However, the rapid industrial growth of the 1960s and the 1970s led to rampant environmental pollution, posing serious challenges to Japan's economy and population. One by one, mines got closed down. Pollution control and protection of the environment became a national priority. Ever since, Japan has made tremendous efforts to develop pollution control technology and know-how as well as the legal framework, including those related to mining. Today, Japan is leading the world in pollution control and environment technology. I therefore hope that, through the course of this seminar, Japan will share valuable information that might be useful and helpful for Zambia in coping with the challenges facing its mining sector.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Japan hosted the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) in Yokohama, Japan earlier this month. More than 50 African countries were represented at the conference, mostly at the level of Head of State and Government. The Zambian delegation was led by H. E. President Michael Chilufya Sata. Numerous international organizations and cooperating partner countries also participated in the conference.

At TICAD V, the importance of investment and trade was emphasized for African

development. The Conference also recognized the importance of infrastructure and human resources development to promote investment and trade. The Japanese Government is keen to work together with the Japanese private sector and the governments of African countries so that more Japanese investment will come to Africa, not to mention Zambia.

One of the barriers for further promotion of investment and trade for Zambia is high transportation costs due to the country's geographical location as a land-locked country. The mining sector is no exception. At TICAD V, the Government of Japan reaffirmed its intention to continue to support the improvement of transport infrastructure, especially around the international corridors, such as the Nacala Corridor, the North-South Corridor and the Lobito Corridor, which connect Zambia to seaports.

Also at TICAD V, the Government of Japan reaffirmed its plan for JOGMEC to provide financial incentives of 20 billion dollars for resource development and exploration projects over the next 5 years. In addition, our Government reaffirmed its plan to provide capacity building for 1,000 Africans in the natural resource industry, including the expansion of training conducted by JOGMEC Geological Remote

Sensing Centre in Botswana. These measures had been announced in May at the Japan-Africa Ministerial Meeting for Natural Resources Development.

I earnestly hope that these efforts will boost Zambia's investment environment and give stronger incentives to Japanese businesses so that Japanese investment in Zambia's mining and other sectors will grow in the future in a way to generate additional values to Zambia's natural resources and in a way for Japanese technology to be transferred.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my sincere hope that this JOGMEC seminar will also be another step to open up new investment opportunities for Japan and Zambia. Japan will spare no effort to strengthen the mutually beneficial win-win partnership between our two countries.

In closing, I wish to thank the organizers of the seminar, namely, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan; Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC); and the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Development of Zambia.

As one who once worked at JOGMEC, I sincerely wish all of us a huge success of the seminar.

Thank you for your attention. (END)