

HIROKI YAMAJI, CHARGÉ D’AFFAIRES AD
INTERNET AT THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN ON THE OCCASION OF
THE HANDOVER OF THE NEW COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BUILDINGS TO CHIYANJANO COMMUNITY ORPHANAGE
SCHOOL, LUSAKA, ON 18th SEPTEMBER 2014

Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to be here today on behalf of the Government of Japan to hand over these new community school buildings to Chiyanjano Community Orphanage School in Lusaka.

This Project was funded by the Government of Japan under its “Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects Programme”. First introduced in Zambia in 1990, this programme aims to support various development projects which would enhance what we call human security at the grassroots level. Over 150 projects have been funded and implemented in Zambia since its inception.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Chiyanjano Community Orphanage School has been making commendable efforts in offering education to orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in Kabanana site in Lusaka. Despite the population of

is only one government primary school in this area. In order to increase the number of children who can go to school, this school has divided a private house into classrooms, and generates the income to sustain the school out of women's activities such as sales of peanut butter and sewing products. Now it accommodates over 250 children; however, they have difficulties in inadequate learning environment with limited space and furniture compared to the growing number of children. It was in appreciation of their efforts and challenges that the Government of Japan decided to extend to Chiyanjano Orphanage Community School a grant amounting to 134,145 United States Dollars, including 21,809 United States Dollars as The Follow-up Expense to supplement the inflationary cost, or approximately 805 thousand Zambian Kwacha to construct this new community school building.

It is my hope that these newly equipped school buildings will give the children an opportunity for better education ultimately providing a brighter future.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Japanese people have been committed to the economic and social development of Zambia since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1964. In recent years, this commitment has been even more enhanced, following the announcement by the Government of Japan of

Zambia's growth and development at the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) which took place in June 2013. In addition, Japanese Imperial Highnesses, Prince and Princess Akishino visited Zambia in June this year for 5 days, to commemorate Zambia's Golden Jubilee of Independence and also the 50th anniversary of Zambia-Japan diplomatic relations. I am optimistic that the manifestation by the Government of Japan at TICAD V and this historical visit by the Imperial family will even further deepen and broaden the cordial relations between our two countries.

Finally, allow me to emphasise that the funds that were used for this Project came from Japanese taxpayers.

It is thus my sincere hope that these school buildings will be well utilised and maintained, so that they will have a positive long-lasting impact on people in the region, and will symbolize the long-lasting friendship between the people of Japan and Zambia.

Thank you for your attention.

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