

REMARKS BY MR. HIDEKI YAMAJI  
CHARGÉ D' AFFAIRES AD INTÉRIM OF JAPAN  
TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING CEREMONEY  
OF THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES  
FOR THE PROJECT FOR GROUNDWATER DEVELOPMENT  
IN LUAPULA PROVINCE PHASE 3  
LUSAKA, 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2014

Mr. Felix Nkulukusa, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance,  
Mr. Yoshihide Teranishi, Resident Representative, JICA Zambia Office,  
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to be here today on behalf of the Ambassador of Japan, His Excellency Mr. Kiyoshi Koinuma, at the signing ceremony for the Exchange of Notes for the Grant Aid for the Project for Groundwater Development in Luapula Province Phase 3. The government of Japan is providing a grant of 858 million Japanese Yen, equivalent approximately to 8 million US dollars or 49 million Zambian Kwacha, for the Project.

The project will involve the drilling of 200 boreholes and 5 pipe water systems in four districts in Luapula Province and the setting up of a sustainable operation and maintenance system for the boreholes and pipe water systems. The system will include putting in place measures to reduce levels of iron in the water, as groundwater in some parts of

Luapula Province contains iron. Water quality tests will be conducted after drilling, and iron removal plants will be installed if the test results show higher levels of iron than those set by the Government of the Republic of Zambia. This Project is expected to benefit more than 82,000 people.

In the water supply sector, starting with Southern Province in 1985, Japan has contributed to the construction of about 1,900 boreholes in Zambia. From 2008 to 2010, Japan has assisted in the construction of 200 boreholes in Luapula Province under the First phase of the Project for Groundwater Development in Luapula Province. And then from 2011 to 2013, Japan has assisted in the construction of 216 boreholes in Luapula Province under the Second phase of the Project for Groundwater Development in Luapula Province. So far, a total of more than 100,000 people, have benefited from Japan's contribution to access to safe water. The aim of this Project is to further improve access to safe water in Luapula where the access rate is at 25.6%, the lowest level among the ten provinces of Zambia. In addition, the construction of a pipe water system has now been included in this Project, thereby enabling more people to have easier access to the safe water .

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

You may recall that the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) was held last year in June in

Yokohama, Japan. In the TICAD V, Japan has set numerical targets for access to safe water for 10 million people in the whole of Africa. Furthermore, Japan announced that from 2013 to 2015, a total of approximately 16 billion US dollars will be provided for mitigation and adaptation efforts for climate change in developing countries, thereby contributing to sustainable development and human security. This Project signifies one of those efforts.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Japanese Imperial Highnesses, Prince and Princess Akishino made a visit to Zambia from end of June to beginning of July to commemorate Zambia's Golden Jubilee of Independence and also the 50th anniversary of Zambia-Japan diplomatic relations. This year is a commemorative year for both Zambia and Japan. It is an honour for Japan to accumulate a token of friendship between our two countries more so in such a momentous year.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere hope that the Project will promote the economic and social development of the country through improvement of water supply for the people of Zambia. It is also my hope that the friendship existing between Zambia and Japan will further be strengthened through the project.

Thank you very much. (END)