

Joint Press Statement
between Japan and the Republic of Botswana

1. At the invitation of the Government of Japan, H.E. Lt. General President Seretse Khama Ian Khama of the Republic of Botswana paid a working visit to Japan from the 17th to 20th of October, 2010.
2. During the visit, H.E. Mr. Naoto Kan, the Prime Minister of Japan, and H.E. Lt. General President Seretse Khama Ian Khama held official talks on the 18th of October, 2010, where they exchanged views on matters of mutual interest in the bilateral, multilateral and global spheres.
3. The two leaders were of the common view that the visit by the President of the Republic of Botswana marked an important milestone in enhancing the bilateral relations existing between Japan and Botswana.
4. Both sides reviewed the recent progress in their bilateral relations since the establishment of the Embassy of Japan in Botswana and expressed satisfaction with the achievements made so far. The leaders shared the view that the existing close relations should be further strengthened in a comprehensive manner, especially in the economic field.
5. In order to boost economic relations between Japan and Botswana, both sides shared the view on the importance of expanding cooperation in the development of mineral resources, including rare metals. In this regard, both leaders welcomed the ongoing activities of the JOGMEC Botswana Geologic Remote Sensing Centre in Lobatse, Botswana.
6. The discussion between the two leaders also covered matters relating to the strengthening of cooperation for African development. While noting the commitments made by the Government of Japan at the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) held in 2008 in Yokohama, to double its Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Africa and to provide support for doubling the amount of Japanese private investment to Africa by 2012, they shared the view that the TICAD

process should be further enhanced as an international platform of cooperation for the development of Africa.

7. Both sides also discussed the importance of supporting the development of regional infrastructure by effective use of Japanese ODA Loan. In this regard, Botswana expressed interest in collaborating with Japan on the Kazungula Bridge Project. Botswana further indicated its interest in working with Japan on such projects as the rehabilitation of Morupule A Power Station, the Zambezi Agro-Commercial Project and the establishment of Botswana Educational television.
8. The leaders also discussed cooperation at the multilateral level, where they shared the recognition on the need for the reform of the structures of the United Nations (U.N.), including the Security Council. The Japanese side welcomed Botswana's support for Japan's bid for a permanent seat in the U.N. Security Council.
9. Both sides also discussed additional regional and international issues of mutual interest, including political developments in the SADC region.
10. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening their bilateral partnership and endorsed to this end the decision to establish a Joint Economic Committee between relevant ministries of Botswana and the Embassy of Japan as well as Japanese relevant agencies in Botswana, as a vehicle for further enhancing bilateral economic relations.

Tokyo, the 18th of October, 2010