

Fact Sheet: Japan-Zambia Summit Meeting

February 6, 2025

At the invitation of H.E. Mr. ISHIBA Shigeru, Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Mr. Hakainde HICHILEMA, President of the Republic of Zambia conducts an Official Working Visit to Japan from February 3-7, 2025.

This Fact Sheet provides an overview of the achievements of Japan and Zambia built on cooperative and cordial relations up to 2024, the year both countries celebrated the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations, as well as plans for further bilateral cooperation, confirming that the two countries are important partners for each other by sharing fundamental values and principles such as freedom, democracy and the rule of law.

The two leaders concurred on launching a framework for bilateral policy dialogue in order to continue their productive discussion for further cooperations in various areas.

Bilateral Relations

1. Economic Relations

The two leaders welcomed the cooperative achievements to date which have strengthened the economic relations between Japan and Zambia, including:

- (1) The signing of the “Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Zambia for the Promotion and Protection of Investment”
- (2) The success of the Japan-Zambia Business Forum, held in Tokyo, on February 6, 2025
- (3) Accelerating cooperation in mineral exploration including conducting satellite image analysis by the Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security (JOGMEC) covering the entire land of Zambia, with a view to the possible participation of Japanese companies

2. Development Cooperation

The Zambian side expressed deep appreciation for Japan’s Official Development Assistance (ODA), as well as assistance through international organizations such as the World Bank, including approval of the following latest projects.

- (1) Mining
 - “A Rule of Law Strategy to Address Security Risks and Promote Responsible Mineral Supply Chains in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), with a Special Focus on Critical Materials for the Green Energy

Transition”, implemented with Japan’s contribution to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

- “Critical Energy Transition Minerals (CETMs): Rapid Assessment of Value Addition and Diversification Capacity in Southern Africa”, implemented by Japan’s contribution to United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- Upcoming completion of the Country Roadmap document under the Resilient and Inclusive Supply-Chain Enhancement (RISE) partnership, implemented by World Bank

(2) Agriculture

- “Emergency Response to El Niño Drought on Smallholder Farmers in Zambia to Enhance Resilience”, implemented with Japan’s voluntary contribution to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- “Climate Smart Smallholder Farming for Productive, Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture in Zambia”, implemented with Japan’s voluntary contribution to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

(3) Assistance for Displaced Persons

- “The Project for the Development of Basic Infrastructure in Settlements for the Displaced Persons and their Host Communities”, implemented with Japan’s grant to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

(4) Infrastructure Development

- “Nacala Port and International Corridor Promotion”, conducted as part of JICA’s Technical Cooperation
- “Project for Formulation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Greater Lusaka”, conducted as part of JICA’s Technical Cooperation

3. Global Health

(1) The two leaders recognized that the University of Zambia (UNZA) School of Veterinary Medicine is a symbol of the cooperative and cordial relations between Japan and Zambia, in collaboration with Hokkaido University over 40 years, as well as serving as a hub for zoonotic diseases control and a center of excellence in the Southern African Region.

(2) The Japanese side expressed its intention to consider continuing support for the UNZA School of Veterinary Medicine. The two leaders shared the views to work

together for Global Health through collaborations among industry, government and academia in both the countries.

Regional and International Affairs

1. Free and Open International Order based on the Rule of Law

- (1) The two leaders reaffirmed to promote collaboration to “maintain and strengthen a free and open international order based on the rule of law” in preparation for the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9), to be held in August 2025.
- (2) The two leaders shared the recognition of the importance of rules-based, transparent and fair development finance and emphasized the importance of compliance with international rules and standards by all creditor countries.
- (3) The two leaders concurred on working together to address regional and international challenges, including Russia’s aggression against Ukraine as well as North Korea’s nuclear and missile developments and the abductions issues.

2. Cooperation in the United Nations (UN)

The two leaders underlined the need for the UN reform initiatives, as well as implementation of the Pact for the Future, with a view to ensuring that the UN is effective, accountable and inclusive. The two leaders concurred on the importance of enhancing the role of the UN General Assembly and working closely towards UN Security Council reform, including the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent membership.