

**JOINT COMMUNIQUE between Japan and South Africa  
on the occasion of the Working Visit of President Jacob Zuma to Japan**

4 June, 2013  
Tokyo

1. At the invitation of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the Government of Japan, President Jacob Zuma and Mrs Thobeka Madiba-Zuma, accompanied by Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, visited Japan on 3-4 June 2013. The South African delegation included Mr Collins Chabane, Minister in the Presidency; Dr Rob Davies, Minister of Trade and Industry; Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk, Minister of Tourism; Ms Hlengiwe Mkhize, Deputy Minister for Economic Development; and Mr Nhlanhla Nene, Deputy Minister of Finance. The President's visit to Japan commenced with his participation in the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), which was held on 1-3 June 2013 in Yokohama, Japan.
2. On 4 June 2013, President Zuma held talks with Prime Minister Abe. The meeting was held in a cordial and amicable atmosphere, indicative of the solid bonds of friendship and solidarity that exist between Japan and South Africa. Both leaders confirmed that Japan and South Africa would work together in further strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding between the two countries.
3. President Zuma invited Prime Minister Abe to visit South Africa at a mutually convenient time in the future.
4. Both leaders exchanged views on a wide range of bilateral and multilateral issues of common interest. On bilateral issues, both leaders recognised the comprehensive political and economic relationship already existing between the two countries and shared the intention to deepen, strengthen and diversify the relationship especially in the areas of trade and investment, infrastructure development, science and technology, agriculture, and skills development.
5. On the multilateral issues, and notwithstanding current global challenges, both leaders reaffirmed their support for joint efforts on various issues including UN Security Council reform, the post-2015 Development Agenda, non-proliferation, disarmament and climate change. Both leaders emphasised the importance of the United Nations Security Council reform and shared the intention to strengthen cooperation and dialogue through consultation on UN Issues.
6. Japan and South Africa upgraded their relationship in 2010 to a "Strategic Cooperation Partnership", and the two leaders committed to continue strengthening this relationship. They further reflected on the successful outcome of the 12<sup>th</sup> Partnership Forum meeting which took place in Pretoria on 1 March 2013 and the importance of the need to deepen the Strategic Cooperation Partnership.

7. Recalling the support and sympathy extended by the people and the Government of South Africa in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, including the dispatch of a team from Rescue South Africa, both leaders underlined the importance of enhancing cooperation in the area of disaster prevention and management.

8. President Zuma briefed Prime Minister Abe on South Africa's key policy initiatives such as the New Growth Path which highlights, among others, the green economy that will produce technologies for solar, wind and bio fuels; support for a new integrated energy resource plan; clean manufacturing and environmental services that will foster new employment opportunities; a mining component focused on beneficiation and enhanced resource exploitation to create large-scale employment; manufacturing to promote the re-industrialisation of the South African economy based on improving performance through innovation, skills development and reduced input costs in the economy; and tourism; and other high-level services.

9. Prime Minister Abe and President Zuma noted with satisfaction that the trend in economic relations between the two countries has shown an upward trajectory in the recent years and shared the intention to explore opportunities in order to expand and diversify their trade, among others, through various technologies and value additions.

10. President Zuma noted that the strategic economic cooperation MOUs signed between the Department of Trade and Industry on the one hand and Tokyo Bank of Mitsubishi UFJ, MIZUHO Bank and JETRO on the other, will translate into greater economic interaction between the business communities of both Japan and South.

11. President Zuma expressed appreciation for the role of Japanese companies in South Africa which have contributed to creating additional job opportunities and skills transfer. President Zuma emphasised that South Africa was a viable place for doing business and he invited Japanese companies to increase their participation in the South African economy and to tender for infrastructure projects aimed at growing the size of the economy.

12. President Zuma briefed Prime Minister Abe on South Africa's Infrastructure Build Programme aimed at upgrading the following infrastructure: rail, road and ports; dams, irrigation systems and sanitation; new energy generation plants; transmission lines and distribution of electricity to households; communication and broadband infrastructure; and social infrastructure in the form of hospitals, schools and universities.

13. While acknowledging the current participation of Japanese companies in infrastructure development projects in South Africa, President Zuma invited the Japanese companies to explore further opportunities in the expanded infrastructure development programme. Both leaders welcomed cooperation in areas such as water, energy, and transportation, including localization and modernization in railways and expressed the hope for further cooperation.

14. Both leaders welcomed the convening of “The Japan-Africa Ministerial Meeting for Resources Development”, co-chaired by Mr Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and Ms Susan Shabangu, Minister of Mineral Resources, on 18 May 2013 in Tokyo. Prime Minister Abe referred to “Japan’s Initiatives for Promotion of African Resources Development” amounting to US\$ 2 billion and training 1000 experts in the next five years. Both leaders looked forward to its follow-up cooperation.

15. Both leaders welcomed the DTI/METI joint study on the automotive, mineral beneficiation and agro-processing sectors as an important tool to give focused attention to the bilateral relationship and a valuable step in increasing and diversifying trade between the two countries. They acknowledged that government in partnership with the private sector has an important role to play in promoting a mutually beneficial trade and investment relationship. Both leaders emphasised the importance of implementing the recommendations emanating from the joint study.

16. Japan and South Africa committed to continue to strengthen their cooperation in the fields of science and technology, human capital and skills development, and research and development. President Zuma urged interested Japanese companies and scientific and academic institutions to become involved in the Square Kilometre Array project.

17. President Zuma expressed his appreciation for Japan’s development assistance and loans which had contributed to addressing various developmental challenges in South Africa.

18. President Zuma congratulated Prime Minister Abe on the successful hosting of the TICAD V, and welcomed Japan’s announcement of its assistance package for Africa which includes among others, human resources development initiative such as through Kaizen; technical and vocational education and training; as well as assistance utilizing private and public means worth up to approximately US \$32 billion in the next five years to contribute to the growth, peace, stability and development of Africa.

19. Prime Minister Abe stated that Japan had been one of the largest bilateral ODA donors in the area of infrastructure in Africa. Prime Minister Abe further stated that, with regard to the North-South Corridor, Japan has provided assistance to the One Stop Border Post project. Prime Minister Abe indicated that Japan had supported other infrastructure projects in various development corridors. President Zuma explained the leading role of South Africa in the development of the North-South Corridor in Africa. Both leaders shared the view that the two countries would explore ways of working together for the development of the North-South Corridor which is aimed at greater integration of the African continent.

20. Both leaders reaffirmed their support for the African Agenda in terms of economic development of the Continent based on African ownership in partnership with development partners. Both leaders also commended the role of the private sector of

both countries in industrial development and their continued dialogue as a way of expanding trade in both directions.

21. President Zuma briefed Prime Minister Abe on South Africa's position on peace and security in Africa. Prime Minister Abe commended South Africa for its efforts to maintain peace and stability in Africa, and briefed the President on Japan's contribution in this regard. Both leaders decided to explore further cooperation in this area.

22. Prime Minister Abe and President Zuma acknowledged the challenges of peace and security in various regions of the world and underscored the importance of responding to these challenges through the multilateral processes and the peaceful resolution of conflicts.