



**JOINT STATEMENT BETWEEN THE
REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE AND JAPAN ON THE
OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL VISIT TO JAPAN
BY PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE,
H. E. MR. FILIPE NYUSI, FROM 13 TO 16 MARCH, 2017**

H. E. Mr. Filipe Nyusi, President of the Republic of Mozambique paid an official visit to Japan at the invitation of H. E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan. On this occasion, the two leaders held a Summit Meeting, with a view to further advancing the partnership between Mozambique and Japan which would be beneficial not only for both countries but also for a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

I 40 years of Partnership and beyond

1. The two leaders expressed their satisfaction for the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, characterized by the long-standing cordial and friendly bilateral relations existing between the two countries and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen these relations based on universal values including democracy, the rule of law and good governance. They reviewed and welcomed the significant progress in bilateral relations since Prime Minister Abe's visit to Mozambique in January 2014, that has brought the partnership to a higher level.

2. The two leaders recalled the establishment of the New Partnership "Amizade" between the two countries in January 2014 and the Summit Meeting between them in August 2016, as important landmarks in promoting bilateral relations between the two countries.

3. Prime Minister Abe acknowledged Mozambique's steady development since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 1992, and President Nyusi recalled that the dispatch of Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) from 1993 to 1995, Japan's first contribution of its SDF personnel to the United Nations Peacekeeping Operation in Africa, helped lay ground for peace and stability in Mozambique.

4. The two leaders welcomed the recent high-level exchange of visits between the two countries and committed to further strengthen bilateral dialogue at all levels. They welcomed the successful holding of the second round of High-Level Policy Dialogue in Tokyo in January 2017.

5. The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strive to consolidate peace and prosperity in Asia and Africa. In this context, Prime Minister Abe explained to President Nyusi Japan's "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy." President Nyusi expressed his support for the Japan's initiative.

6. President Nyusi expressed his appreciation for Japan's leading role in contributing to Africa's development through the process of Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) and for the support that Japan has been giving for the development of Mozambique. The two leaders emphasized the unique role that the TICAD has played as an open, inclusive and transparent forum to address common challenges in Africa. Building on the historic success of the TICAD VI held for the first time in Africa, the two leaders reconfirmed their commitment to steadily implement its outcome. In this context, Prime Minister Abe welcomed the offer made by Mozambique to host the TICAD VI Ministerial Follow-up Meeting in Maputo later this year.

II Partnership for Prosperity

7. The two leaders reaffirmed the vital role of the private sector in promoting sustainable growth and socio-economic development in Mozambique. They welcomed that the Japanese private sector's interest in Mozambique is growing in a wide range of areas, including infrastructure, natural resources and energy development.

8. President Nyusi welcomed the growing investment by Japanese companies in Mozambique and expressed the willingness of the government to provide a safe, secure and stable investment environment to facilitate the smooth progress of the existing projects. Prime Minister Abe reiterated his commitment to support infrastructure and human resources development, and formulation of strategic master plans in Mozambique through Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects and by promoting investments by Japanese companies.

9. The two leaders expressed their satisfaction for the successful holding of public-private dialogues, with the participation of representatives of the private sector

from both Japan and Mozambique.

10. The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen free, fair and open markets and committed to redoubling their efforts to promote trade and investment between the two countries. They appreciated the effective implementation of the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Mozambique on the Reciprocal Liberalisation, Promotion and Protection of Investment. They recalled that it was the first bilateral investment agreement that had come into force between a sub-Saharan African country and Japan. They looked forward to the establishment of a Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) office in Maputo to support Japanese investment and trade between Mozambique and Japan.

11. President Nyusi expressed appreciation for the Conference on Quality Infrastructure held in Maputo in January 2016. The two leaders recognized the enormous demand and potential for developing quality infrastructure in Mozambique through Japanese investment, to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth.

12. The two leaders acknowledged the potential for expanding the cooperation for the improvement of transportation infrastructure in Mozambique. They welcomed the signing of Memorandum of Cooperation among the Municipality of Maputo, the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Mozambique, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan in the field of urban transportation in Maputo.

13. The two leaders recognized the importance of continued cooperation between the two countries in the electric power sector. President Nyusi appreciated Japan's contribution to the development of this sector in Mozambique and welcomed the Japanese interest shown in future projects such as Maputo Gas Fired Combined Cycle Power Plant Development Project (II), Nacala Emergency Power Plant Development Project and Caia-Nacala Transmission Line Project. Prime Minister Abe emphasized the critical importance of Mozambique's restoring debt sustainability as prerequisite for providing new ODA loans.

14. President Nyusi briefed Prime Minister Abe on the recent economic situation in Mozambique, including the undisclosed debt issue. President Nyusi reaffirmed Mozambique's commitment to cooperate with the IMF and other stakeholders, and to negotiate with the private creditors to resolve the issue as soon as possible. Prime Minister Abe encouraged President Nyusi to make utmost effort to regain Mozambique's international credibility at the earliest possible time.

15. Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to assist Mozambique's efforts towards economic and fiscal reforms through technical cooperation, and also to support the balance of payment by extending grant aid to procure fuel and other necessary goods.

16. The two leaders recognized the importance of Nacala Corridor Economic Development Strategy (PEDEC-NACALA) developed under the cooperation between the two countries. Prime Minister Abe underscored the strong interests among the Japanese private sector in the development of the Nacala Corridor and announced that the Japanese private sector would take part in the Nacala Corridor Railway and Port Project with the involvement of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). The President Nyusi applauded the Government of Japan for continued support in improving capacity and efficiency of the Nacala Port, a gateway to Southern Africa region and appreciated Japan's presence and engagement in the Nacala Corridor projects. In this context, the two leaders welcomed the signing and exchanging of Notes concerning Japanese Grant Aid for the bridge construction in Cabo Delgado Province up to the amount of 3.419 billion Yen.

17. The two leaders recognized the importance of agriculture development in Mozambique and acknowledged the ongoing cooperation on agricultural research and technical transfer such as in the area of livestock farming. They reaffirmed that the ProSAVANA program aims to contribute directly to the development of agriculture and food security in Mozambique and thereby benefits its entire people. They further reiterated their commitment to continue close dialogue with the civil society and rural communities in its planning and implementation with a view to duly protecting their rights and to work together in improving their lives through sustainable agriculture development.

18. The two leaders recognized that human resource development and job creation for young people are of utmost importance. President Nyusi expressed his gratitude for Japan's long standing support in the training of young Mozambican professionals in industrial work skills, business education and vocational and technical training and noted its positive impact on Mozambique's development. Prime Minister Abe announced that Japan will promote capacity building of more than 1,000 Mozambicans people over the next 5 years by dispatching the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV), carrying out "Sport for Tomorrow" programme, and conducting vocational training through programs such as African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative). Prime Minister Abe also announced that Japan will start conducting feasibility study for improvement of the vocational training centers in Mozambique.

19. The two leaders reaffirmed the importance of successful development of natural gas including through the Mozambique LNG Project in which Japanese companies and Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC) participate. They also welcomed the signing of a memorandum for cooperation on human resources development in the field of oil and gas resources among Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH), Instituto Nacional de Petróleos (INP) and JOGMEC.

20. The two leaders underscored the importance of building resilience to natural disasters in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and welcomed the technical cooperation in this area. Prime Minister Abe expressed his sympathy to the people in Mozambique affected by the recent drought and the cyclone Dineo. President Nyusi thanked the Prime Minister and the people of Japan for their support including the provision of emergency relief goods through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for the victims of the cyclone and the grant aid of approximately 636 thousand US dollars for the relief and countermeasures in the field of health, nutrition, education and community support.

21. The two leaders recognized the importance of sustainable urban development and management as well as the need to work with local authorities and communities to

reduce the negative impacts of urban activities, including through the 3R (reduce, reuse, and recycle) and better waste management. They looked forward to the successful holding of the seminar on waste management and the preparatory meeting for establishing “African Clean Cities Platform” in Maputo in April 2017.

22. The two leaders reaffirmed the importance of promoting resilient health systems, as emphasized in the Nairobi Declaration of the TICAD VI and renewed their commitment to steadily implement the ongoing projects, including the Project for Construction of Health Science Institute in Nacala. They shared the recognition that strengthened health systems will lead to the achievement of universal health coverage (UHC) that leaves no one behind and also to enhancing preparedness for public health emergencies.

23. The two leaders welcomed the signing of the agreement for academic cooperation between Pedagogical University of Mozambique and Naruto University of Education. They also expressed their expectations on further invigoration of exchanges in the fields of education and research between the two countries.

III Partnership for Global Peace and Stability

24. The two leaders condemned in the strongest terms terrorism in all its forms and manifestation. They renewed their commitment to fight against terrorism and to address root causes of violent extremism and radicalization. President Nyusi highly appreciated Japan’s measures amounting to approximately 500 million US dollars announced at TICADVI to help lay foundations for peace and stability in Africa.

25. The two leaders exchanged their views on the wider security environment in the world, especially in Africa and in Asia. They underscored that observance of international law is a cornerstone for maintaining peace and stability of the world. Prime Minister Abe briefed President Nyusi on Japan’s policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, including the “Legislation for Peace and Security”, which aims to enhance Japan’s contribution to global peace, stability and prosperity. President Nyusi welcomed Japan’s new

security policy and expressed his appreciation for Japan's efforts. President Nyusi further expressed the hope that, through this policy, Japan will engage more actively towards resolving conflicts in Africa and reaffirmed the importance of continued and collective commitment of the international community in the search for lasting peace, security and stability in the continent.

26. The two leaders shared the recognition that the reform of the United Nations Security Council, including the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent categories, should be expeditiously advanced to make it more legitimate, representative and effective, and to further strengthen the credibility of the United Nations. In this regard, they expressed their determination to significantly enhance their cooperation. They also emphasized the importance of building upon the recent developments in the Intergovernmental Negotiations in New York and of moving the process forward, including through increased interactions and consultations. The two leaders acknowledged the value of continued dialogue among the interested groups to bridge divergent positions and to comprehensively address all the elements of the Security Council reforms.

27. The two leaders reaffirmed the importance of promoting regional and international cooperation on maritime security and safety, including fighting against piracy, illegal fishing and other illegal maritime activities through capacity building and enhancing maritime connectivity between Asia and Africa to build free and open Indo-Pacific region. They reiterated their commitment to maintaining a rules-based maritime order in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including those reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). They underlined the importance of freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded trade, self-restraint, non-militarization, as well as peaceful settlement of maritime disputes provided under UNCLOS. Prime Minister Abe explained Japan's position on the issues related to the situation in the East and South China Sea. President Nyusi stated that Mozambique respects Japan's position on maritime security. They also expressed their strong opposition to any unilateral actions that could alter the status quo and increase tensions.

28. Prime Minister Abe briefed President Nyusi on the escalation of tensions in the Korean Peninsula and Japan's efforts to resolve outstanding concerns in particular nuclear, missile and abduction issues. President Nyusi expressed his support for the Prime Minister's effort to pursue a peaceful solution to those issues. The two leaders condemned in the strongest terms North Korea's nuclear tests and repeated ballistic missile launches and underlined the need to maintain peace, security and stability in the region by fully implementing the relevant UN Security Council resolutions including Resolution 2321. The two leaders urged North Korea to refrain from any provocation and to fully comply with UN Security Council resolutions and other international commitments.

29. The two leaders acknowledged the need to enhance their cooperation to address global challenges such as implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, climate change and refugee crisis. They reaffirmed their commitment to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.

30. The two leaders recognized the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and the need to strengthen international cooperation in this area, including through conferences such as the World Assembly for Women (WAW!).

31. Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to promote cooperation and exchanges through "Sport for Tomorrow" programme towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, including improvement of Judo equipment in Mozambique. President Nyusi welcomed it and wished Japan's success in hosting of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

32. Finally, President Nyusi expressed his appreciation to Prime Minister Abe and the Government of Japan for the warm hospitality accorded to him and his delegation.

Tokyo, 15 of March, 2017