



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KENYA BUSINESS SEMINAR ORGANISED BY UNIDO-ITPO, TOKYO IN COLLABORATION WITH KENYA EMBASSY ON 27TH JUNE 2016 IN OSAKA
OPENING REMARKS BY MR. PAUL KALIIH, MINISTER COUNSELOR-KENYA EMBASSY.

Head, UNIDO-ITPO Tokyo

Chairman, Chamber of Commerce & Industry (OCCI), Osaka

JETRO Osaka, JICA Kansai, METI Kansai Bureau

Members of Kenyans in Japan Association (KIJA), Osaka

Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me pleasure to be with you today. First, my sincere thanks goes to UNIDO-ITPO, Tokyo for inviting Kenya Investments Authority (KENINVEST), through Ms. Heather Munyao, to participate in their delegate program that is dedicated to promotion of Japanese investments and technology transfer to participating countries. I take note with appreciation that, during her two weeks' promotional activities in Japan, the officer was facilitated and held several bilateral business meetings with various Japanese stakeholders interested in investing in Kenya, visited various companies and today she will be delivering a key note speech on investment opportunities available in Kenya for Japanese entrepreneurs.

Ladies and Gentlemen

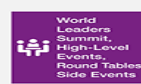
Allow me also to express my gratitude to UNIDO-ITPO, Tokyo for hosting today's Seminar in collaboration with Kenya Embassy. Thanks also goes to all the other Seminar participants and presenters. This seminar comes immediately after the Embassy together with our Japanese collaborators hosted yet another very successful seminar for Japanese SMEs in Nagoya on 17th May 2016 as Kenya prepares to host the first TICAD Summit on African soil in Nairobi this August, 2016.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Japan over the years has demonstrated to be true friend of Kenya and indeed Africa at large. To date Japan remains a key development partner to Africa with Kenya being the highest recipient of Japanese ODA in Sub-Sahara Africa both through bilateral cooperation



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arrangements and the TICAD process. Kenya, as a gateway to Africa, is also a strategic trading Partner for Japan in Africa.

Ladies and Gentlemen

For the last three years we have witnessed unprecedented new flows of Japanese companies coming to invest in Kenya. 15 major Japanese Companies opened their African regional offices in Nairobi. These include, Ajinomoto Corporation (food processing), LIXIL Corporation (Construction), Zensho Group (Food processing), Mitsui and Co. Ltd (General Trading), Panasonic Corporation (Electrics), Nissin Foods (Food processing -also participating in the seminar), Trade car view (ICT, Auto-trading), Honda Motors (Motorcycle manufacturing), H.I.S Corporation (Tourism) just but to mention a few. We have also witnessed increased volume of our key exports to Japan i.e. Tea and Cut flowers and also diversification of our other exports including Coffee, dried fruits, nuts, fresh and frozen fish, handcrafts and semi-precious stones.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Allow me to talk a little bit about forthcoming TICAD VI Summit to be held in Nairobi in August 2016. Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) was initiated by Japan in 1993 to provide a platform through which Japan would continue to interact with Africa to address 'Africa development challenges and opportunities i.e TRADE, INVESTMENTS AND ODA. This was immediately after the end of cold war, resulting to increased Western donor countries' fatigue and disinterest in investing in Africa .As traditional key investors to Africa, their focus and attention shifted towards former Eastern Europe.

Ladies and Gentlemen

At this critical moment, Japanese TICAD initiative was a reflection of true friendship and foresight towards Africa. To date, since the first TICAD I Conference in 1993, a lot has been achieved in Africa's Development through partnership with Japan, in terms of poverty alleviation, employment creation, wealth creation and rise of African middle class through Japanese investments and technology transfer to Africa. TICAD meetings are led by Japan, and co-organized by the United Nations, United Nations, Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and the African Union Commission (AUC).

Ladies and Gentlemen

This unique partnership between Africa and Japan is based on twin cardinal principles of African ownership and mutually beneficial partnership. Invitations are extended to all African Head of states and governments, as well as international organizations, donor countries, private companies and civil society organizations. Until TICADV, the summit-level meetings were held every five years in Japan.



From 2016 onwards, the TICAD Summit meetings will be held every 3 years, hosted alternately in Africa and Japan. In response to the request from Africa side during the last TICAD V meeting held in Yokohama, Japan agreed to hold TICAD VI Summit for first time in Africa in Nairobi, Kenya on 27-28th August, 2016. It will be preceded by TICADVI EXPO and Business forum on 26th presided over by Japanese Premier, Shinzo Abe and host President Uhuru Kenya.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

The expo will be showcasing various Japanese companies operating and interested in investing in Africa as well as successful business enterprises from Africa willing to partner with their Japanese counterparts in investing in Africa. Over 50 African Head of States and Governments are also expected to grace the occasion. So far over 300 Japanese companies and over 1,000 Japanese business executives have registered for their participation during TICAD VI Conference.

I encourage Companies from Osaka especially the SMEs to consider participating in this international event to witness and appreciate what Africa, particularly Kenya can offer in terms of Trade and investments and to further cement your friendship with Africa. For those who may consider to make a business trip to Kenya on their own Kenya Embassy will be available to provide you with the necessary information.

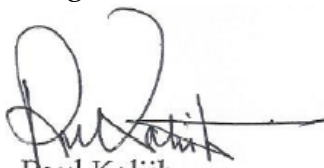
Ladies and Gentlemen

In conclusion, during TICAD VI, the Government of Republic of Kenya has organized a tour package for our guests to various world famous tourists attractions in Kenya including the 'original savannah Safari' to Masai Mara National Park, L. Nakuru, famous for the Pink flamingoes & 500 birds species & the big 5 and Nairobi National Park located 15 Minutes from city centre. Please come and sample the beauty of Kenya and hospitality of its people that we are known for globally.

Asante Sana

Thank you very much

Arigato Gozai masu.

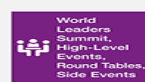


Paul Kaliih

Minister Counsellor



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