

**OPENING REMARKS BY H.E. MR. KAZUYA OGAWA, AMBASSADOR OF  
JAPA ON THE OCCASION OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POLICY DIALOGUE ON  
THE JAPANESE ODA TO THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA  
ON 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013**

Ms. Mary BAINE, the permanent secretary of MINAFFET,

Distinguish guests,

Ladies and Gentleman,

Thank you all for participating in the 10<sup>th</sup> annual policy dialogue. It is a great pleasure for me to hold this dialogue today. Though this is my first annual policy dialogue, the dialogue itself celebrates its 10th anniversary. I'm very pleased to have Ms. Yoshiko Kijima, director who is responsible for economic cooperation for African countries at the headquarters in Tokyo. I expect to have more fruitful dialogue today due to her presence.

The Government of Japan appreciates the hard work done by the Government of Rwanda to achieve its development with impressive economic growth under the strong leadership of President Kagame. Also, the Government of Japan believes that Rwanda has a major role to play in the Great Lake region's economic development and peace building. This year is the first year of the EDPRS II and I expect that the Government of Rwanda will have a good start to accelerate its growth to become a middle income country by 2020. I look forward to a presentation on the details of EDPRS II later.

The Government of Japan held Tokyo International Conference on Africa

Development V (TICAD V) in Yokohama , Japan from 1st to 3rd June this year.

The Government of Japan appreciated not only the attendance of H.E.

President Kagame, but also the meaningful high level dialogue between

President Kagame and the prime minister of Japan Sinzo Abe. Also, thanks to

Rwanda's contribution to the conference, the TICAD V was successful.

Following up TICAD V, Japan provided Non-Project Grant Aid worth of around 3

million USD in July and approved the use of counterpart fund of 2KR for the

construction of RAB central laboratory and office this month. In later session,

Ms Kijima will explain detail of the outcome of TICAD V.

In conclusion, the annual policy dialogue between the Government of Rwanda

and the Government of Japan is a good platform for having frank and open

exchange of views regarding economic cooperation. This year we have a

session to discuss our areas of concern before the closing of the dialogue. I

sincerely wish that this dialogue will contribute to a mutual understanding which

will promote a more effective cooperation. And I believe that this dialogue will

further strengthen already the existing relationship between our two countries.

Thank you for your attention. Murakoze Cyane.