

**OPENING REMARKS BY H.E. MR. KAZUYA OGAWA, AMBASSADOR OF  
JAPAN ON THE OCCASION OF THE 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POLICY DIALOGUE ON  
THE JAPANESE ODA TO THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA  
ON 4<sup>TH</sup> November 2014**

Amb. Jeanine Kambanda, the permanent secretary of MINAFFET,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentleman,

Thank you all for participating in the 11<sup>th</sup> annual policy dialogue. It is a great pleasure for me to hold this dialogue today.

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. Japan has been supporting different sectors, namely water and sanitation, agriculture, energy, education, and transport. We will continue to do so to assist Rwanda to achieve its Vision 2020.

I would like to express to the Government of Rwanda our gratitude for your cooperation on the occasions of the visit of the Public and Private Sector Joint Mission for Promoting Trade and Investment in late August as well as Japan-Africa Business Forum and the Rwanda business and investment seminar held in the middle of June this year in Japan. Japanese companies are very much

interested in Rwanda and, at every occasion, the participants from both countries engaged in lively discussions. The Government of Japan will continue to support Japanese companies to promote investments in Rwanda.

As you know, through our vigorous discussions and the Rwandan Government's willingness to assist, we have solved last March the issue of taxation involving Japanese companies executing ODA projects in Rwanda. I look forward to having more fruitful dialogue later for the good of our cooperation.

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 the cooperation for development. This year we have sessions to discuss our areas of concern and the applicability of Japan's ODA loan, or Yen loan, to Rwanda. 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 the existing relationship between our two countries.

Thank you for your attention. Murakoze cyane.