

Opening remarks by H.E. Mr. Kunio Hatanaka, Ambassador of Japan on the Occasion of the First Japanese Film Showing at the Kimisagara Youth Center, on the 25th November 2010

Murakaza neza muri Festival ya Filme yaba Japani.

(Welcome to the Japanese film showing.)

Thank you all for coming to the film showing today presented by the Embassy of Japan. This is our first time to show the Japanese film in Rwanda and you are the first witnesses. It is my pleasure to introduce you the film of *Doraemon*, a story about a cat-like robot from the 22nd century and his friends.

Doraemon is an award winning cartoon series which has started since 1969 and is one of the most popular Japanese cartoons. Many Japanese children have been attracted by his magical tools in his four dimensional space pocket. You will soon see his tools such as “take-copter,” a small propeller which allows you fly freely, and “dokodemo door,” which takes you anywhere you wish to go. The cartoon depicts a typical Japanese family-hood, school life as well as customs. As the anime ambassador of Japan to promote Japanese culture, *Doraemon*’s movies have been shown in many countries.

For many of you who are attending this film showing, Japan may be an unfamiliar country somewhere far in Asia. However with the opening of the embassy in this January, we are here to strengthen our existing friendship and to cooperate further. The embassy will create more opportunities of cultural exchange in coming years. We are always happy with your participation.

I wish you will enjoy the film and see our culture with interest.

Murakoze cyane!