

PRESS RELEASE

7th May 2021

**Ambassador HOSHIYAMA Takashi's message, on occasion of the official opening of
Kazungula Bridge on 10th May**

“The completion of the Kazungula bridge project is a monumental event. The project is the main part of the North-South Corridor which connects Zambia to the port of Durban, through Botswana. The corridor will be used to transport the highest freight volume in the Southern African region. From now on, transport time will be shortened drastically, and regional economy will prosper.

The Japanese government, thorough JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), contributed towards the construction of the corridor with an ODA Yen loan. Japan's contribution composed of:

- (1) The implementation of the feasibility study of the entire project
- (2) The construction of the OSBP (One Stop Border Post) and access road
- (3) The provision of equipment and technical assistance for the OSBP
- (4) Consultation services for the whole project.

On the whole, this project is the result of the cooperation of 4 stakeholder's amongst them the governments of Japan, Botswana, and Zambia as well as AFDB. The Japanese government will continue to support the economic development of the SADC region.”