



EMBASSY OF JAPAN BULLETIN

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(GENERAL AFFAIRS) Emperor's Birthday Reception 2016



Amb. Uesawa making his opening remarks

Following singing of the national anthems of Japan and Kenya by Nairobi Chamber Chorus, Ambassador Uesawa delivered a welcome speech in which he explained the recent bilateral relations between Japan and Kenya which had been significantly enhanced through the experience of TICAD VI in Nairobi, the first-ever TICAD summit meeting in Africa.

On the 24th of November 2016, prior to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan's birthday on December 23rd, a reception in honor of his birthday was held by Ambassador Toshitsugu Uesawa. There were various attendees from the Government of Kenya, including Hon. Aden Duale, Leader of Majority in the National Assembly and Hon. James Gethenji, Chair of the Defence & Foreign Relations Committee in the National Assembly, representatives of international organizations, Ambassadors and Diplomatic Corps members, business leaders and Japanese residents.



Chief guest Hon. Aden Duale, Majority Leader of the National Assembly of Kenya making a toast with Amb. Uesawa



A cross section of the invited guests

After receiving a congratulatory message by the Hon. Aden Duale, who described Japan as "a true companion, a reliable development partner, and an old and trusted friend," all the guests were welcomed to enjoy various Japanese cuisine including *Sake*, (Japanese rice wine). Several *Shamisen* (three-stringed Japanese musical instrument) and Japanese choral pieces were performed during the reception.



(CULTURAL AFFAIRS) CS Hassan Wario Attends the World Forum on Sport & Culture in Japan



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe addressing the World Forum on Sport and Culture
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From the 19th to 21st of October 2016,

Dr. Hassan Wario Arero (PhD), Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Sports, Culture and The Arts Kenya visited Japan to attend the World Forum on Sport and Culture. The forum, which was organized by Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology as a kick off event towards the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic games, attracted high level representatives from 69 countries including 35 Ministers in charge of sports. It was attended by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Mr. Thomas Bach,

President of International Olympic Committee (IOC) and Hon. Yoshiro Mori, President of Tokyo Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games among others.



(POLITICAL AFFAIRS) Visit to Japan by Hon. Justin Muturi

From the 7th to 12th of November 2016, Hon. Justin Bedan Njoka Muturi, speaker of the National Assembly of Kenya officially visited Japan on invitation by Hon. Tadamori Oshima, the Speaker of House of Representatives of Japan. Hon Muturi was accompanied by a Kenyan delegation that included Hon. Aden Bare Duale, Leader of the Majority in the National Assembly, Hon James Ndungu Gethenji, Chairman, Defence and Foreign Relations Committee, and other Kenyan Members of Parliament. During the visit, the Speaker held several bilateral meetings with top Japanese Government officials including, the Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.



©Photos courtesy of Speaker JB Muturi's twitter page



(CULTURAL AFFAIRS) 10th Japanese Cultural Festival



On the 5th of November 2016, the Embassy of Japan held the 10th Japanese Cultural Festival. In his opening remarks, Ambassador Uesawa mentioned that the Japanese Cultural Festival is a venture aimed at enhancing cultural exchange between Kenya and Japan.

This year's main event was the Japanese Music Festival, a Japanese chorus competition, which had participation from 7 Kenyan primary and secondary schools and universities and a special presentation by the Nairobi Chamber Chorus. Other events were a martial arts demonstration (*aikido* and *karate*), an anime film screening, *origami*, Japanese traditional games and a Japanese dolls exhibition. This year's Japanese Cultural festival was attended by about 400 people including Mr. Nicholas Moipei, Chairperson of the Kenya Cultural Centre, the events chief guest.



(CULTURAL AFFAIRS) 2nd J-Pop Festival

On the 19th of November 2016, the 2nd J-Pop Festival was held at the Japan Information & Culture Centre. The J-Pop Festival consisted of two main sessions: an anime movie screening and a *Nodojiman* & Cosplay Competition. During the morning session, the anime movie "*Doraemon the Movie: Nobita's Dinosaur 2006*" was screened. In the afternoon, a *Nodojiman* and a Cosplay Competition was held. *Nodojiman* is a singing competition while Cosplay, which is short for costume play, involves dressing and acting as popular characters from anime, manga, video games, television series and film. The *Nodojiman* & Cosplay Competition received generous support from Mitsubishi Motors, Marubeni Corporation, Toyota Kenya Ltd, Rohto Mentholatum (Kenya) Ltd and JKUAT Nissin Foods Ltd who provided prizes for the winners and the participants of the two competitions.



(CULTURAL AFFAIRS) Japanese Cultural Festival 'UNDOKAI'



On the 15th of October 2016, A Japanese Cultural Festival, '*UNDOKAI*', was held at Nyonjoro Primary School in Nyandarua County. *UNDOKAI* was attended by 700 people. Hon. Peter Mwangi Gathimba, County Executive Committee Member, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Sports of Nyandarua County was the chief guest of the Festival. The main event of the Japanese Cultural Festival was *UNDOKAI*. *UNDOKAI* is the Japanese style of sports day which puts its emphasis on disciplined group activities.



(ECONOMIC COOPERATION) Japan, WFP Partner on School Meal Program in Kenya



On the 31st of October 2016, Ambassador Uesawa attended the Signing Ceremony to reassure Japan's further commitment in supporting the School Meal Programmes in collaboration with World Food Programme (WFP) and the Government of Kenya. WFP School Meal Programmes have made a great contribution to the education system in Kenya. School meals are an essential safety net, helping to ensure every child has access to education, health and nutrition.

With this strengthened partnership, Japan will assist children to go to school by providing school meals through the donation of 2,500 tons of rice to 250,000 children for the duration of the entire school year.



(ECONOMIC COOPERATION) Japan Celebrates Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP)

Between October and December 2016, four GGP project contracts were signed; and one GGP project was handed over:

Grant Contract Signing

- The Project for the Improvement of Educational Environment at Bondo Township Primary School, Siaya County. Grant Amount of USD 91776. (Date: 10 November 2016)
- The project for the Improvement of Learning Environment through Upgrading Learning Facilities in Six Primary Schools in Laikipia North Sub-County, Laikipia County. Grant Amount of USD 92945. (Date: 10 November 2016)
- The Project for Promoting Access to Quality Education for Girls at Gadamoji High School, Marsabit County. Grant Amount of USD 78566. (Date: 10 November 2016)
- The Project for the Construction of Ngwani Sand Dam and Footbridge, Makueni County. Grant Amount of USD 92416. (Date: 10 November 2016)



Handing Over Ceremony

- The Project for Water Supply in Karadolo West, Siaya County. Grant Amount of USD 86,343. (Date: 28 October 2016)



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