

Thursday, May 21, 2015

**Remarks by KIYA Masahiko, Ambassador-designate of Japan to South Sudan
on the occasion of
the Handover Ceremony for the Fences around at Juba River Port, Juba**

H.E. Mr. Kuong Danhier Galluak, Minister of Transport, Roads and Bridges,
Col. Osamu NISHIMURA, Commander of the Japanese Engineering Contingent at UNMISS,
Dr. Mitsuaki FURUKAWA, Chief Representative at JICA South Sudan,
Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is our great pleasure to be here today to celebrate the completion of Juba River Port fences.

River transport is one of the important means of transportation for South Sudan. Japan has been working for the improvement of infrastructure in Juba and the surrounding area since 2006, just after the CPA, and Japan is now undertaking the improvement of River Port as part of this comprehensive project. It started three years ago in June 2012 with a projected cost of 27.7 million US dollars financed by grant aid. It is composed of the construction of a pier cargo handling yard, warehouse and repair shop, together with the provision of equipment such as crawler crane, forklift, yard tractor, and oil pump.

Due to the crisis in this country in December 2013, this was temporarily suspended, and the protection of the yard for the time being has become necessary. Japanese Engineering Contingent of UNMISS was tasked to undertake this important work. Today, we see the excellent fence, which serves as a good foundation for a smooth resumption of this river port project. I commend the efforts of all those in the Japanese Contingent as well as relevant authorities and organizations, including UNMAS, who made this possible under the scorching sun and occasional heavy rains.

Peace is important as a basis for prosperity. As peace came back in Juba recently, this project is about to resume. If peace prevails throughout this country, Japan can expand its development to other cities and villages of South Sudan. We sincerely hope that the government and the people of South Sudan will make this country peaceful as soon as possible, so that Japan can work with South Sudan to achieve enduring prosperity and happiness throughout this country.

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Lastly, let me thank again for the cooperation extended by UNMISS as well as relevant authorities of South Sudan, without which Japan could not make this progress of our support. We look forward to our further cooperation.

Thank you for your attention.