

10 November 2016

**Remarks by Kiya Masahiko,
Ambassador of Japan to South Sudan,
on the occasion of the Medal Parade
of the 10th Japanese Engineering Contingent**

Dr. Moustapha Soumare, Deputy Special Representative (Political)
of the UN Secretary General,
Major General Yang Chaoying, Deputy Force Commander,
Senior officials and commanders of UNMISS,
Col. Churiki Osamu, Commander of the Japanese Engineering
Contingent, and all the members of the Contingent,
Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honour and privilege for me to be invited to this
important occasion of Medal Parade to make a few remarks on
behalf of the Government of Japan as well as the entire Japanese
community here in South Sudan.

First and foremost, I would like to congratulate all the
members of the Japanese Engineering Contingent on the
tremendous achievements they have made during this most difficult
period. The incident in July and the subsequent security situation in
Juba have affected a wide range of the Contingent's tasks as well as
daily life. A number of observation posts and perimeter fences that
they have constructed after the incident are the examples of their
visible and valuable contribution to enhanced security of UNMISS. I

know that they put their restraint on drinking for quite a while to be prepared for any contingencies. All their efforts are now fully recognized by many and rewarded with great appreciation.

Let me speak just this part also in Japanese.

施設隊の皆様へのメッセージの部分は、日本語でも申し上げます。この最も難しい時期に多大なる成果を上げられたことに、心よりお祝い申し上げます。7月のジュバ衝突とその後の治安状況により、業務も生活も大きな影響を受けられたことと存じます。皆様が作られた多くの監視塔や防護壁は、UNMISSの安全を目に見える形で高めました。万一の事態に対処するための飲物の制限も大変だったことと思います。皆様の全ての努力は、多くの方々に認められ、その感謝の気持ちで報われることでしょう。おめでとうございます。

Such achievements have been made possible only with full support of all the units and members of UNMISS as a big team. Indeed, the entire UNMISS went through this difficult period. On behalf of the Government of Japan, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the great sacrifices that an Infantry Battalion has made in discharging their most challenging tasks and to appreciate their continued commitment. Each and every personnel of UNMISS, from top to bottom, must have been struggling through to fulfill his or her mission under a difficult environment since July. I believe that the Japanese Engineering Contingent have realized its full potential as an integral part of this entire UNMISS network.

Thus, I would like to reiterate, on this occasion, the continued commitment of the Government of Japan to supporting UNMISS. Japan is currently a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council till the end of next year. In addition, Japan is closely working with the Government of South Sudan to enhance their cooperation

with UNMISS and a wider international community, including through joint efforts for the prompt deployment of the Regional Protection Force. Japan, together with UNMISS, is determined to make all the endeavours to bring about peace in South Sudan.

Lastly, allow me to conclude my remarks by Haiku, a traditional short poem of Japan, to share with you a flavor of Japanese culture.

作る壁 平和の砦の 基かな

Building a fence, forming the basis of a bastion of peace.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.