

**A Message from Kiya Masahiko,
Ambassador of Japan to South Sudan,
on the occasion of the
Opening Ceremony of Mapiso Primary School
at Tamba Payam, Tamba State
on 1 June 2017**

It is a great pleasure for me to send a message of congratulations for the opening ceremony of Mapiso Primary School in Tamba. While I could not attend this important event myself due to time and security constraints, my heart is with all of you today.

First and foremost, I would like to commend the efforts of all those who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of education in Tamba.

I understand that, since last year, World Vision Japan and World Vision South Sudan together have been working with local governments and communities not only to improve school facilities but also to promote life skills training to children, to enhance understanding on the importance of education among adult parents, and to provide training to teachers.

Today's school opening ceremony gives us an opportunity to appreciate all the positive outcomes that all of you collectively realized for the benefit of children, who bear responsibility for the future of this payam, county, state, or even the entire country. Congratulations to you all again!

Thanks to this new school facilities in front of you, pupils have become the greatest beneficiaries. The number of pupils in the school nearly doubled from 163 to 316 with the construction of the facilities. 8 classrooms, 1 teachers' room, 13 toilets and the fence, all improved the environment of daily education.

It is also my pleasure to hear that, with the support of the Government of Japan, which means, with the goodwill of the entire Japanese people, this education support program will continue in the next two years! Teachers will receive further training on a wide range of subjects, which will in turn benefit the pupils who receive instruction from these teachers. And they will then become fathers and mothers in the future, improving the quality of life in the next generation.

Allow me to conclude my message by conveying the wish of the Japanese people that we would like to extend support to those under the most difficult conditions in the country. Tambda is very far away from Juba, or even Yambio. Still, or rather for that reason, we care for you even more. The Japanese people are always with you in their hearts, hoping to share and cherish peace and prosperity.

Thank you for your attention. Shukran Jazeelan.

(End)