

Remarks by H. E. Mr. Masaharu Yoshida, Ambassador of Japan to The United Republic of Tanzania, At ABE Initiative/ The Reporting Session for the Returnees, on April 6th, 2017 at Hotel Golden Tulip City Centre, Dar es Salaam

- Ms. Roxana Kijazi, Representing President's Office Public Service Management (POPSM),
- Mr. Issa Mlingoti, Chief Coordinator, Vice President's Office Zanzibar,
- Mr. Jacob Focus, Principal Economist, Ministry of Finance and Planning
- Mr. Mrisho, Human Resource Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation,
- Mr. Toshio Nagase, Chief Representative, JICA Tanzania
- Tanzanian Private Sectors,
- Japanese Companies,
- ABE Initiative Returnees,
- Former MEXT scholars of the Government of Japan,
- Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Habari za Mchana?

It is my great honour and pleasure for me to see all of you—ABE initiative returnees and former MEXT scholars. I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the supporters of those scholarship programs, both Tanzanian and Japanese people from both public and private sectors, who are with us today.

ABE Initiative symbolizes Japan's commitment to promote private sector development and human resource development in Tanzania and Africa. In fact, promoting structural economic transformation through economic diversification and industrialization is one of the three priority areas that Prime Minister Abe declared at Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) VI which was held in August last year in Nairobi, Kenya.

In addition, I would like to acknowledge the presence of former MEXT scholars who have studied under the scholarship of Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. Since 1950, more than 100 scholars have studied in Japan through this scholarship programme.

I am sure each one of you has achieved both academic and personal accomplishment. By utilizing all your experiences in Japan, both former ABE and MEXT scholars can together strengthen the partnership and understanding between Tanzania and Japan in various areas. Recognizing Africa as one of the fastest growing economies in the world and, Japan continues to enhance efforts to develop necessary skills through education, technical and vocational training to improve institutional capacity for economic diversification in Tanzania.

To conclude, I would like to thank JICE (Japan International Corporation Center) and JICA (Japan international Corporation Agency), to organize today's meeting. I believe that in the end each individual like every one of you including both private and public sectors are the foundation of our friendship between the two countries. I look forward to insightful presentations and fruitful discussions this afternoon.

Asanteni kwa sikiliza.