

## **Japan Hands Over Road Rehabilitation Material to the Government of Zimbabwe**

On 30 October 2017, the Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Mr Toshiyuki Iwado, officially handed over a grant of road rehabilitation materials worth more than USD 5.5 million (600,000,000 Japanese yen) to the Government of Zimbabwe. The extension of this grant was made through the Government of Japan's grant aid "Economic and Social Development Programme", and this assistance was endorsed when President Mugabe signed the joint statement with Prime Minister Abe in Tokyo, in March 2016.

This road rehabilitation material provided by Japan consists of 4,744.74 metric tonnes of bitumen, 1,164.84 metric tonnes of cutback bitumen and 1,446.56 metric tonnes of cationic emulsion. The material will be distributed to all eight local provinces of Zimbabwe for the Department of Roads as well as local authorities to work on the rehabilitation. Some of the material has already been utilized for 111.8 km of road construction and 396 km of roads resealing.

Japan's assistance toward infrastructure in Africa was also on the table at the TICAD VI held in 2016, and the "Nairobi Declaration" made at the Conference stresses that a cornerstone of economic development is development of quality infrastructure. We hope that with this assistance from Japan, and with teamwork and cooperation between the responsible authorities of the Zimbabwean government, Zimbabwe will one day regain its position as a country with the best roads in the region.



H.E. Ambassador Iwado, Hon. Dr. Gumbo, Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development, and the Hon. Shamu, Minister of State for Mashonaland West together cut the ribbon of the road rehabilitation material handed over by the government of Japan.



Speech by Ambassador Iwado



Speech by Hon. Dr. Gumbo, Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development



People gathered at the ceremony



Hon. Dr. Gumbo and Ambassador Iwado

