

**SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED BY H.E. MR YOSHI TENDAI HIRAISHI,
AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN TO ZIMBABWE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE
HANDOVER CEREMONY OF “THE PROJECT FOR SUPPLYING SAFE WATER
IN SHURUGWI DISTRICT “**

FEBRUARY 26, 2015

**SALUTATIONS,
Mangwanani. Mamuka sei?**

(List of dignitaries present)

**Mr. Manyakaidze, Director of Shurugwi Partners
Distinguished guests, all protocol observed, ladies and gentlemen**

It is my great pleasure to visit **Shurugwi** District today to officially handover **13** new boreholes including the one here at **Banga** Clinic. The Embassy of Japan extended a grant of nearly US **122** thousand dollars to our partner, **Shurugwi** Partners last March and we are delighted that all **13** boreholes have been successfully installed, which now produce plenty of safe potable water..

The new boreholes were drilled at **8** health institutions as well as at **5** schools scattered throughout the district. This is a very notable project as safe water is indispensable for safe delivery as well as proper treatment for patients. We have so far received exciting news from some clinics that the number of deliveries at those clinics increased since the installation of new boreholes.

Our Embassy has been actively supporting the provision of safe water supply through the drilling of boreholes throughout the country. For instance, we supported the establishment of boreholes in **Chivi** District and in **Chipinge** District both in **2012**. We fully recognise the significance of access to safe water as it is a fundamental human need and right. We can easily imagine how difficult the situation would be in a health centre or a school without having effective means to meet such a basic necessity.

I would like to take this opportunity to stress one important aspect of our assistance of this kind, which I hope you bear in mind in the future. If I say it using one word, that is “sustainability. What is the most important aspect of this project is the constant maintenance and long-term sustainability of these facilities. As from today the boreholes become the property of benefiting clinics, schools and the community. It is the great responsibility of the recipients of our assistance to ensure that these boreholes are maintained in good working condition in years to come. Our task is to assist our recipients’ self-development efforts for their own benefits.

Lastly I hope that the provision of these boreholes will greatly contribute to the improvement of the standards of living of students, patients and the local community as a whole.

TATENDA. MAKOROKOTO Kwamuri mose.