

7th of September

Japan Provides Food Assistance to Refugees at Tongogara Refugee Settlement

On 7 September, Mr. MAEKAWA Nobutaka, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Zimbabwe and Ms. Barbara Clemens, WFP Zimbabwe Country Director, signed an Exchange of Notes concerning Japan's grand aid of approximately USD 1.3 million (200 million Japanese yen) in food assistance for refugees and asylum seekers residing in Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe hosts more than 23,000 refugees and asylum seekers, the majority of whom reside at the Tongogara Refugee Settlement. Women and children account for three-quarters of the resident population, and many households continue to face significant food security challenges.

This contribution supports to provide grain and other food commodities to 11,300 refugees and asylum seekers in Zimbabwe, while also delivering targeted nutrition support to the most vulnerable individuals, including children under five, pregnant and lactating women, and those living with chronic illnesses.

Ambassador MAEKAWA stated: *"Japan is committed to promoting human security and ensuring that the most vulnerable people have access to the support they need to live healthy and dignified lives. Through our partnership with WFP and the Government of Zimbabwe, we are helping to improve food security and nutrition for refugee families and supporting their path toward future self-reliance."*

Director **Ms.** Barbara Clemens expressed her gratitude, stating: *"We are deeply grateful to the Government and people of Japan for this generous contribution. At a time when humanitarian resources are under enormous pressure globally, this support will help ensure that refugees and asylum seekers in Tongogara continue to have access to the nutritious food they need and protect the nutritional well-being of children, mothers, and other vulnerable individuals. This partnership reflects our shared commitment to leaving no one behind."*

Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare Edgar Moyo remarked: *"The Government of Zimbabwe appreciates the continued support of the Government of Japan and WFP in assisting the refugees and asylum seekers we host in our country. This contribution strengthens our joint efforts to ensure that vulnerable people have access to adequate food and nutrition, and reinforces Zimbabwe's commitment to providing protection, dignity, and opportunity to those who seek refuge within our borders."*

The Government of Japan's continued support underscores the strong and enduring partnership among Japan, WFP, and the Government of Zimbabwe. Over the past seven years, Japan has provided USD 12.7 million in food assistance through WFP. WFP works in close coordination with the Government of Zimbabwe and humanitarian partners to assist refugees and asylum seekers at the Tongogara Refugee Settlement, while also promoting opportunities for long-term resilience and self-reliance.



E/N Signing Ceremony attended by the Ambassador and WFP Representative Ms. Clemens, witnessed by Hon. Minister Moyo



The Ambassador delivers his remarks



The Ambassador and WFP Representative Ms. Clemens signing the E/N



The Ambassador and WFP Representative Ms. Clemens exchanging the E/N