

Speech to be presented by H.E. Ambassador Yonezo Fukuda at a Handover Ceremony of Sporting Courts with Danhiko Project

14 June, 2013

Mangwanani, Makadini (*Good Morning, How are you all?*)

Vanoremekedzwa, Amai Grace Mugabe (*Honourable Mrs Grace Mugabe*)

Deputy Minister of Sport, Art, Culture and Education, Hon Lazarus Dokora
Vana nevadzidzisi vepaDanhiko (*Students and Staff of Danhiko*)

I welcome you back from Japan, Amai Mugabe. I hope you enjoyed the hospitality of my country and its people.

Today I am very happy because this project is being handed over for the benefit of this community.

Students, staff and community of Danhiko, this is your project that is aimed at promoting your sporting competitiveness and physical well-being.

I would like to commend Mr. Hiroshi Komatsu, a member of the Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) for tirelessly planning and completing the application procedure. Not single handedly would he succeed without the help of each and everyone who made this a success "I say makorokoto on a job well done"

I have no doubt that everyone is going to get a chance, at least to step into the courts to participate, as a player or umpire and least as a spectator.

As you already know Amai Mugabe, the Japanese Embassy through the Japan's Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects' made it possible to construct three All Weather Tennis, Volleyball and Netball Courts all combined in one, three Spectator Benches and provision of twenty-one Tennis Wheelchairs.

This year, Danhiko will be holding its 25th Annual Paralympic Games and it feels good that all the sporting activities including tennis will be hosted here.

I am gratified that students with disabilities and able bodied who participate in tennis as part of their physical education activity, as rehabilitation or as a profession will find ease of access to these facilities contained at the same center.

We are delighted that this project will mentor world class tennis, volleyball and netball players, some who will make it to the 2020 Olympic Games that will, hopefully be held in Tokyo 2020 Candidate City.

I wish the best to all users of these facilities. Please take good care so that they last long.

Thank you, **Tatenda.**