



THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA TOKYO

Tablet Devices Donation Ceremony, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication: Remarks by Ambassador Ernest Rwamucyo 28 November 2020

Hon. TAKEDA Ryouta, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication

Mr. UEMURA Takashi, Member of the Board of Directors, University of Electro-Communication

Senior Officials of Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication and University of Electro-Communication

I would like to thank you for hosting this important ceremony and for inviting me to participate.

The partnership between Rwanda and Japan is very strong and deeply rooted in a shared vision for peace, prosperity and technological development of our countries.

Japan has over the last decades made significant contribution to the development of Rwanda through our programmes of bilateral cooperation. We are very proud of this friendship and will continue to nurture it for the mutual benefit of our two countries and people.

This ceremony to celebrate and recognize the donation of tablet devices to Rwanda is an important part of the continued journey of friendship between Rwanda and Japan.

The 4000 tablet devices donated by University of Electro-Communication to Keza Education Future Lab will go a long way to compliment the Government of Rwanda's programmes aimed at improving the quality of education through technology and innovation.

Keza Education Future Lab, the organization which will receive and manage the

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tablet devices is well known in Rwanda as a pioneer in innovative approaches to teaching and learning by introducing children to science, technology and experiential learning at a very early age.

This is in line with the Government of Rwanda's policy of increasing learning outcomes and research in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

The tablet devices will also help strengthen the Government of Rwanda's ambitious programme of One Laptop per child which is aimed at ensuring that each child in school has a laptop as a device to help with learning and education.

The 4000 tablet devices arriving in Rwanda at this time of COVID-19, when most children have had to take classes online and study from home for most of the time will be a significant boost and may help about 4000 children out of many who do not have access to computers or other learning devices.

I would therefore like to sincerely express our appreciation to University of Electro-Communication and to Mr. UEMURA Takashi, Mr. KOYANAGI Masaji and the entire team of University of Electro-Communication who have worked on this project.

Hon. Minister, I would like to thank you again for your personal and your Ministry's support for the partnership between Rwanda and Japan. Your Ministry and Rwanda Ministry of ICT and Innovation have worked very closely together.

I bring you warm greetings and best wishes from Hon. Ingabire Paula, Minister of ICT and Innovation who has visited Japan several times. She is committed to implementing the Memorandum of Understanding on collaboration in ICT which exists between the two ministries.

We look forward to our continued friendship and collaboration.

Thank you again for inviting me to this ceremony and for the warm reception.