

Morocco, Japan mark 70-year diplomatic tie

By Rachad Bouhlal

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to Japan

This year marks the 27th Anniversary of the Enthronement of His Majesty King Mohammed VI. On this auspicious occasion, I would like to convey my respectful greetings to their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress, to the members of the Imperial Family, to the Prime Minister, H.E. Mrs. Sanae Takaichi, to the Government, and to the friendly people of Japan.



Rachad Bouhlal

This year marks also the 70th anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Morocco and Japan, and celebrating the Kingdom's National Day in Japan is always a wonderful opportunity to highlight the long-standing strong relationship between our two countries, founded on the mutual respect and deep friendship shared between the Moroccan Royal Family and the Japanese Imperial Family.

Under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Morocco has emerged as one of the key developing nations in Africa and the Middle East and is recognized as a vital partner in addressing global challenges.

In terms of economic infrastructure, several strategic projects — such as the Tangier Med Port and the establishment of high-end industrial free zones across the country — have been successfully completed. Additional major initiatives are currently underway, including the construction of the Dakhla Atlantic and Nador West Med deep sea ports.

In terms of connectivity, the extension of the existing high-speed rail line from Casablanca to Marrakech is a key milestone. New rail connections to Mohammed V International Airport are also under development, and the total capacity of Moroccan airports is set to double by 2030.

At the regional level, His Majesty King Mohammed VI has launched the ambitious Atlantic Initiative for the Sahel, aimed at connecting landlocked Sahel countries to international trade routes via the Dakhla Atlantic Port.

His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco
Courtesy of Morocco Embassy

In the field of sustainable energy, Morocco is aiming to produce 52% of its electricity from renewables. Morocco is now home to one of the largest solar power plants in the world and is advancing major international projects, such as the Morocco-Nigeria gas



Courtesy of Morocco Embassy

Ouarzazate Solar Power Station (OSPS) in Morocco, which is one of the largest solar power plants in the world

pipeline, which will connect 13 African countries and facilitate gas exports to Europe.

Regarding food security, Morocco is implementing a strategy to mitigate the impacts of climate change and enhance water management efficiency through the development of "water highways" and seawater desalination plants.

In the tourism sector, more than

7.7 million tourists have visited Morocco this year, and the number is set to keep growing.

The upcoming 2030 FIFA World Cup, which Morocco will co-host alongside Spain and Portugal, will give a further boost to development projects and energize the economy.

These accomplishments have been possible in part thanks to

partnerships with the Government of Japan and major Japanese companies, which have consistently invested in and operated from Morocco.

Finally, I would like to express my deep appreciation to the Moroccan community living in Japan. They play an essential role in strengthening human and cultural ties between our two nations.

Japan-Morocco relations deepened

By Hirofumi Nakasone

President of the Japan-Morocco Parliamentary League

On this auspicious occasion of the 27th anniversary of the enthronement of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, I am delighted to extend my sincere congratulations, on behalf of the Japan-Morocco Parliamentary League, to His Majesty, the Royal Family and the people of the Kingdom of Morocco.

Japan and Morocco have maintained strong and friendly relations since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1956, as exemplified by the close bonds between the Imperial and Royal Families and the frequent high-level exchanges between the two countries.

The year 2026 marks a truly significant milestone — the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two nations. I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the people of Morocco on this historic occasion.

Strategically located at the crossroads of the Middle East, Europe and Africa, Morocco continues to



Hirofumi Nakasone

attract growing foreign investment and business presence, backed by its geopolitical importance, political and social stability, excellent access to European markets, well-developed special economic zones, and free trade agreements with numerous countries.

Morocco is now advancing large-scale infrastructure investment in preparation for co-hosting the 2030 FIFA World Cup, making it an increasingly attractive market full of opportunities for Japanese businesses.

Reflecting this deepening of bilateral relations, in May of this year, the Foreign Ministers of Japan and Morocco held a conference, resulting in the issuance of a "Joint Communiqué by the Foreign Ministers," which sets out the guiding principles for bilateral cooperation going forward.

As we celebrate this remarkable 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations, I am firmly committed, in my capacity as President of the Japan-Morocco Parliamentary League, to continuing my utmost efforts to further deepen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

I wish for the health and prosperity of the people of Morocco, as well as further development of the cordial relations between our two countries.

By Haruko Hirose

President of the Japan-Morocco Association

On the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the enthronement of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to His Majesty, the Royal Family and the people of the Kingdom of Morocco on behalf of the Japan-Morocco Association.

Our two nations share a long-standing friendship based on mutual respect and trust. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1956, Japan and Morocco have maintained active high-level exchanges, and this year we proudly celebrate the 70th anniversary of our diplomatic relations.

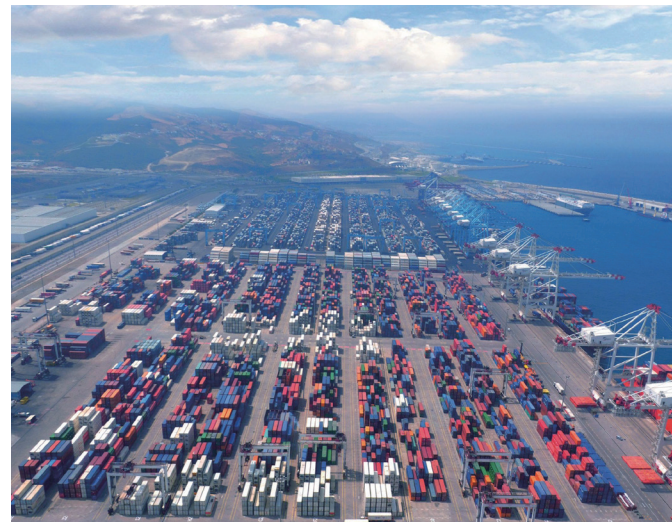
In this milestone year, Mr. Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, and Mr. Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco, held a video conference and reaffirmed the longstanding friendship between our two countries as well as our strong and steadily growing partnership. Regarding the Western Sahara, Mr. Motegi welcomed the adoption of the relevant U.N. Security Council resolution and expressed Japan's support for the efforts of the U.N. Secretary-General to advance negotiations, taking Morocco's Autonomy Initiative as a basis.

I highly commend Morocco's steadfast commitment to building resilience in the face of regional and global challenges, including climate change, energy security and food security. In this regard, I am pleased to note that the African Development Bank's 2025 report recognized Morocco as the most advanced country in Africa in terms of industrial development. I believe that the contributions of Japanese companies investing in Morocco have played an important role in supporting this remarkable achievement.

We also celebrate Morocco's remarkable progress



Haruko Hirose



Courtesy of Morocco Embassy

Tangier Med Port, a strategic priority of Morocco

in many fields beyond the economy and infrastructure, including tourism, culture and sports. The outstanding performance of the Moroccan national football team at the FIFA World Cup has inspired people around the world and brought great pride to the nation.

I was also delighted to learn that the Tokyo National Museum and the National Foundation of Museums of Morocco recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding. I sincerely hope this agreement will further strengthen cultural cooperation between our two countries, whose long histories and rich cultural heritages — including invaluable historical manuscripts — offer enormous opportunities for deeper mutual understanding.

Once again, I extend my warmest congratulations to His Majesty King Mohammed VI and wish His Majesty, the Royal Family and the people of Morocco continued peace, prosperity and success. May the enduring friendship between Japan and Morocco continue to flourish for many years to come.

The Japan-Morocco Association is preparing some events to celebrate this important year.

Our Warmest Congratulations on the National Day of the Kingdom of Morocco

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Our Warmest Congratulations on the 27th Anniversary of the Accession to the Throne of His Majesty King Mohammed VI

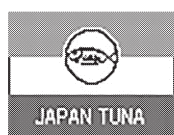
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Warmest Congratulations

To His Majesty,
KING MOHAMMED VI OF MOROCCO
on the 27th anniversary of his accession
to the throne of his glorious ancestors.

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ELECTRIC**Lightera Morocco SARL
Lot no95 Zone Franche Automotive City
Commune Jouamaa, Province Fahs-Anjra, Tanger, Maroc
Office: +212 05 31 06 30 41
LIGHTERA.COM

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**Japan Tuna Fisheries Co-operative Association**
31-1 Eitai 2-chome, Koto-ku, Tokyo
TEL: 03-5646-2382 FAX: 03-5646-2652

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**Headquarters****Fujikura Ltd.**

1-5-1 Kiba, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-8512 Japan

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Head Office:

SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, LTD.

4-5-33, Kitahama, Chuo-ku, Osaka 541-0041

Tel: 06-6220-4119

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