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Department:
Public Works and Infrastructure
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Tuesday, 20 February 2024



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MINISTER ZIKALALA LEADS A MEETING AIMED AT STRENGTHENING BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND JAPAN

By Motlhabane Motlhabane

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) Honourable Minister Sihle Zikalala met with the Japanese delegation on 20 February 2024 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) in the Western Cape.

The aim of the meeting was to continue strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two countries. The high level Japanese delegation of Japan Business Federation was led by Tetsuji Ohashi - Chairman of the Board, Komatsu Ltd. and Jun Karube - Senior Executive Advisor, Toyota Tsusho Corporation and accompanied by His Excellency Mr Ushio Shigeru the Ambassador of Japan in South Africa.

Minister Zikalala was joined by Director-General, Mr. Sifiso Mdakane, Deputy-Director-General for Inter-Governmental Coordination, Mr. Adam Mthombeni, Head of Infrastructure South Africa, Ms. Mameetse Masemola and Mr. Mduduzi Mhlongo, Minister's Special Advisor.

In their presentation to the Minister and his delegation, the Japanese want to assist the country in dealing with some of the pressing challenges the country is experiencing like the electricity shortage and reduction of greenhouse gas. They also shared information on their expertise in rail and road infrastructure. The Japanese acknowledged the sterling work that the South African Government is doing in handling security, which might be a concern in attracting investment.



Honourable Minister Sihle Zikalala and His Excellency Ushio Shigeru - the Ambassador of Japan in South Africa and the delegation.

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