

**Mr. Erastus Mwencha**  
**to receive 2020 Autumn Conferment of Decoration on Foreign Nationals**

On November 3, 2020, the Government of Japan announced foreign recipients of the 2020 Autumn Conferment of Decoration.

**Mr. Erastus Mwencha**, former Deputy Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AUC) is among this year's foreign recipients. The decoration was awarded in recognition of his outstanding contribution towards strengthening the relationship and promoting the friendship between Japan and the African Union. He receives the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star. Mr. Mwencha served as Deputy Chairperson of the AUC from 2008 to 2017.

DECORATION: The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star

SERVICE: Contributed to strengthening the relationship and promoting the friendship between Japan and the African Union.

NAME: Mr. Erastus Mwencha

MAJOR TITLE: Former Deputy Chairperson of the AUC

**SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

Former Deputy Chairperson, Mr. Mwencha collaborated with Japan on a number of multilateral issues. His Excellency engaged with and contributed to the successes of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) IV(2008), V (2013), and VI (2016).

Since TICAD V, AUC has played an important role as one of the co-organizers of TICAD and in particular, TICAD VI in 2016 was successfully held in his mother country, Kenya, which was the first TICAD in the African continent.

Each conference produced the declaration and the action plan for African development, with which Japan and AUC, as well as other international partners has undertaken a variety of cooperation and collaboration.

**Mission of Japan to the African Union**  
**November 3 2020**