

## **Japan to Extend 11.6-B.-Yen Loans to Zambia, Botswana**

Tokyo, Oct. 10 (Jiji Press)--Japan will extend a total of 11,612 million yen in soft loans to the African nations of Zambia and Botswana to help finance a bridge construction project at the border between the two countries, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

The yen loans finance the construction of a bridge across the Zambezi River between the two countries and roads leading to the bridge as well as border control facilities.

Of the loans, 2,877 million yen will be extended to Zambia and 8,735 million yen to Botswana.

"I hope that the project will contribute to the region's economic development," Foreign Minister Koichiro Genba said.

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