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Tokyo, 25 November 2011

Ms Noriko Yamaguchi Chairperson, Sakai City Councilor, 4-1-27 Shukuin-cho Higashi, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka 590-0955

Dear Ms Yamaguchi,

## Farewell

It is with mixed feelings that I wish to inform you that I shall be returning to South Africa at the end of December 2011, after completion of my tenure as South Africa's Ambassador to Japan. I have been assigned to a new and challenging post by my government in early 2012.

My experience as the South African Ambassador to Japan was both challenging and enjoyable while working with you to promote the important relations and cooperation between South Africa and this resilient and creative country, Japan, with its wonderful people. I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your valued cooperation and support to me personally and the Embassy of South Africa in Japan.

My recollections and memories of Japan will be lasting and I will always be "an ambassador" for this country and its people wherever I venture.

My successor will assume his/her position as Ambassador early in 2012. I know that you will continue to accord him/her the same support and solidarity that you so generously afforded me.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks.

Yours sincerely

Gert J. Grobler Ambassador