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For Immediate Release

WORLD LEADERS CONGRATULATE ZAMBIA AT 55

Lusaka, (Wednesday, 23rd October, 2019) -----On the eve of Zambia's 55th Independence Day Anniversary, World Leaders have conveyed messages of congratulations to **His Excellency Dr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia.**

Russia's President Vladimir Putin in his congratulatory message said Russia and Zambia have been traditionally friendly and expressed confidence that further constructive development of bilateral cooperation will be made between Russia and Zambia for the benefit of the two peoples.

President Putin said strengthened bilateral cooperation between Russia and Zambia would help foster security and stability on the African continent.

"Your Excellency Mr. President, Please accept my sincere congratulations on the occasion of Your country's National Holiday-the Independence Day," President Putin said.

Japanese Emperor His Majesty, Naruhito conveyed his heartfelt congratulations and sincere good wishes to President Lungu and prosperity for the people of Zambia.

"On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Zambia, I have great pleasure in sending Your Excellency my heartfelt congratulations and sincere good wishes for your happiness and for the prosperity of the people of your country, Emperor Naruhito said.

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) President Felix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Dr Edgar Chagwa Lungu on Zambia's 55 independence anniversary.

In his message, President Tshisekedi assured his willingness to work with the President towards developing and strengthening strong the bonds of friendship and cooperation which exist between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia.

"On behalf of the Congolese people and on my own behalf, allow me to convey my warm congratulations on the occasion of the Independence Day Celebration of your country," said President Tshisekedi.

"By renewing my wishes of good health and full success in governing your country, please accept Mr President and Dear Brother, the assurances of my highest consideration," read part of the message.

In another message of congratulations, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia General Honourable David Hurley says the positive bilateral relationship between Zambia and the Commonwealth of Australia stands to grow further through education links, capacity building and the development of commercial relations, notably in the mining sector.

The Governor General expressed confidence that the friendly relations between Zambia and Australia will continue to prosper in the coming year.

"On the occasion of the independence Day of Zambia, I wish to convey to you and the Government and people of Zambia my warmest wishes, together with those of the Australian Government and people," said General Honourable Hurley.

And Indonesia President Joko Widodo in his congratulatory message to President Lungu said Indonesia resolves to strengthen the ties of partnership with the Republic of Zambia and believes that the relations of the two countries have all the opportunity to grow in the coming years. "I hope we continue our shared efforts in various platforms of collaboration that will benefit our people."

"I am greatly pleased to extend to you my sincere felicitations on the joyous occasion of the Anniversary of Independence Day of the Republic of Zambia on 24th October," President Widodo said.

In another congratulatory message, Republic of Korea President Moon Jae-in observed that over the years, Zambia and Korea have steadily developed friendly relations by working together in a variety of fields.

President Jae-in looked forward to further deepening and strengthening the close relations between the two countries in a mutually beneficial and future-oriented manner. "I'm also convinced that the friendship between the people of our two countries will be further strengthened in the process.

"On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Zambia, I wish to convey my warmest congratulations to Your Excellency and to the people of the Republic of Zambia," said President Jae-in.

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