



NELSON MANDELA
CENTRE OF MEMORY

at the Nelson Mandela Foundation

Living the legacy

The partnership between the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the Japan Association of International Cultural Heritage (JAICH) is unique. The Foundation was set up in 1999 by Nelson Mandela to support him in his continuing work in advancing human rights and social justice. It has taken fourteen years for the Foundation to undertake a joint project with a Japanese organisation. And it has taken fourteen years for the richness of Nelson Mandela's archive to be represented on Japanese soil. We are glad to be part of making these things happen, and honoured to be associated with an organisation as distinguished as JAICH. We look forward to building our links with Japan.

The links between South Africa and Japan, of course, have a substantial history. In 1995, on a visit to your country, Nelson Mandela said: "The support which Japan gave us in the struggle to free ourselves from apartheid is remembered with gratitude by our people." Also on that visit, he described your country as one "that has embraced peace with a passion; a country that has graciously acknowledged wrongs of the past ... A country that weathers fearsome natural disasters with such calm and fortitude, and displays an astonishing work ethic and innovation, will be central in building a new and better world."

We wish success to the JAICH 2013 Art Exhibition. It is an event with enormous potential to reach audiences and generate creative narratives. We trust that it will enable a communion of ideas. As Nelson Mandela also said on his 1995 visit to Japan: "Few moments express the affinity between nations as much as the communion of ideas. Fewer still reflect the respect nations accord one another better than the recognition of their mutual contribution to the good of humanity." Such is what this occasion symbolises.

We thank you.

Sello Hatang
Chief Executive