

Press Release

Embassy of Japan in Nigeria

Press Release

29 April 2022

2022 Spring Conferment of Decoration Engineer Habu Ahmed Gumel

On April 29, 2022, the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2022 Spring Imperial Decorations. Engineer Habu Ahmed Gumel is among this year's foreign recipients. He will receive The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, one of the highest order awarded in the name of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, in recognition of his contributions to promoting friendship between Japan and Nigeria through sports.

Engineer Gumel becomes the fourth Nigerian to receive such Order from Japan, following Senator Udoma Udo Udoma, former Minister of Budget and National Planning; Professor Isaac Folorunso Adewole, former Minister of Health; as well as Professor Mohammed Gana Yisa, former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Japan.

- DECORATION: The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon
- SERVICE: Contribution to promoting friendship between Japan and Nigeria through sports
- NAME: Habu Ahmed Gumel
- MAJOR TITLE: Nigeria Olympic Committee President, Member of the International Olympic Committee
- ADDRESS: Abuja, Nigeria

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

As President of the Nigeria Olympic Committee and a member of the International Olympic Committee, Engr. Gumel has been instrumental in building relations with the Japanese Olympic Committee and has contributed significantly to the promotion of bilateral cooperation between Japan and Nigeria over the years through the Olympic Games.

His unwavering support of Japan's bid was a major contribution to winning the vote to host the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, and since assuming the post of Olympic

Committee Co-ordinator, he has visited Japan several times a year to attend committee meetings and actively participate in discussions, thereby contributing to the success of the Games. He also made a significant contribution to the strengthening of personal exchanges between the two countries by cooperating with Kisarazu City's registration as host town and organising high-level exchanges between the Mayor of Kisarazu and Nigeria's ministers, which were featured in the country's leading newspapers.

In addition, as President of the Nigerian Volleyball Federation, he contributed to the strengthening of sports exchange between the two countries by sending Nigeria's national Volleyball coach to Tsukuba University for a short period of time and actively dispatching volleyball coaches from Japan.

The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon



The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon is one of the orders under the Order of the Rising Sun, established in 1875 by Emperor Meiji. The Order of the Rising Sun was the first national decoration awarded by the Government of Japan. The badge features rays of sunlight from the rising sun. The order is awarded in the name of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and is awarded to those who have made distinguished achievements in international relations, promotion of Japanese culture, advancements in their field, development in welfare or preservation of the environment. The Order of the Rising Sun comprises as follows:

1. Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun
2. The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star
3. The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon
4. The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette
5. The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays
6. The Order of the Rising Sun, Silver Rays