# Press Release

**Embassy of Japan**
**Press Release**
**8 May 2024**

### The 2024 Spring Conferment of Decorations on Foreign Nationals
### Professor James Chukuma Ogbonna

On 29 April 2024, the Government of Japan announced the 2024 spring Conferment of Decorations on Foreign Nationals, with Prof James Chukwuma Ogbonna, the former Deputy Vice Chancellor at University of Nigeria / the former Professor of Microbiology at University of Nigeria, being one of the recipients. In recognition of his contributions to promoting academic exchange and mutual understanding between Japan and Nigeria in the field of agriculture, he will receive the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon.

DECORATION: the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon
SERVICE: Contributed to promoting academic exchanges and mutual understanding between Japan and Nigeria in the field of agriculture
NAME: James Chukwuma Ogbonna
MAJOR TITLE:
The former Deputy Vice Chancellor at University of Nigeria
The former Professor of Microbiology at University of Nigeria

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS
Inter-University Exchange Agreements: As Coordinator of Academic Cooperation, Prof. James Chukwuma Ogbonna spearheaded agreements between several universities, including the University of Nigeria with Hokkaido University, Tsukuba University, and Osaka University. This facilitated student exchange programs and research collaborations.
Promoting Human Exchange: He actively facilitated the exchange of students and researchers between the two countries. His efforts led to 55 Nigerian students studying in Japan and several Japanese researchers conducting research in Nigeria, particularly in the field of agriculture.
Building Networks: His work established a valuable network of contacts between

academics in both countries, paving the way for further collaboration and exchange in the future.

Overall, Prof. James Chukwuma Ogbonna dedication has significantly enhanced academic exchange and mutual understanding between Japan and Nigeria.



Prof James Chukwuma Ogbonna