

Exmo. Senhor  
Dr. Carlos Madeira  
Presidente do Club Bonsai do Algarve  
Club Bonsai do Algarve

Lisbon, 22 September 2008

Dear friends,

With the sense "*triste*", Michiko and I will be leaving Portugal on 23<sup>rd</sup> September after our happy stay here for almost three years. Not long enough at all, but full of pleasant memories.

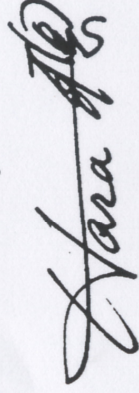
Among many others, Portugal will be remembered with: Deep blue sky at *Arrábida* mountains (*Setúbal*); Thrilling rides on *electrico* No.28 in *Lisboa*; Roaring crashed pure white waves at *Ilha Berlenga (Peniche)*; Magnificent panorama of Lisbon Bay from *Casa da Cerca (Almada)*, Unobstructed view of *Açores* islands from the summit of the Portugal-highest *Monte Pico*, Solemn tranquillity inside *Convento de Santa Maria da Vitória (Batalha)*; Sweating mountain walk of *Pico Ruivo (Madeira)* with cliffs, cliffs and cliffs; Leisurely sip of *Vinho Tinto* watching beautiful flying *cegonhas* (storks) in *Comporta (Tróia)*.

Moreover, Portuguese people have softly hugged my wife and me with their warm arms. With this heartfelt hospitality we have safely and pleasantly completed our tour of duty in this country. Non-Portuguese friends have also rendered their firm support to us. Many, many thanks to you all.

My successor, Mr. MIWA Akira, a Portuguese speaker unlike me, will be arriving in mid-October. Please give him your kind support.

I wish you and your family all the happiness in the years ahead.  
*Muito, muito obrigado!*

Yours sincerely



HARA Satoshi  
Ambassador of Japan