

**Speech by H.E. Mr. KUMAMARUYuji,  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan  
To the Kingdom of Cambodia  
At the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects  
March 26, 2014**

Dr. Sam Inn, Executive Director of the LIFEWITHDIGNITY

Mr. Chea Cheath, Director of the Department of Education, Youth and Sport of Phnom Penh Capital City,

Mrs. Ky Samphy, Executive Director of the Krousar Yoeung Association Mr. Eng Sokha, Administration office chief  
of the Kratie Provincial Teacher Training College

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to hold a signing ceremony for four grant contracts of the Grass-Roots Human Security Project, which are “The Project for Improving School Environment at Chrak Tnot Primary and Lower Secondary School, Kampong Chhnang Province”, “The Project for Constructing a School Building at Prek Kampues Lower Secondary School, Phnom Penh Capital City”, “The Project for Constructing 3 Pre-school Buildings in Koh Thom District and Ang Snoul District, Kandal Province”, and “The Project for Constructing a Multipurpose Building with a Science Laboratory at Kratie Provincial Teacher Training College”.

These projects whose contracts were signed today aim to improve educational environment for students and trainee teachers in respective project areas. I believe that enhancement of the education sector holds a key for the future development and prosperity of Cambodia, thus, it is critical to invest in the sector with a long-term perspective. The education sector is one of the priorities for the Cambodian Government as well as the Japanese Government. In fact, Japan has been assisting Cambodia’s education sector for two decades by constructing school buildings and providing training to teachers.

The first grant, which amounts to \$108,793, is provided to the LIFE WITH DIGNITY for the construction of school buildings with sanitation facilities and the installation of school furniture at Chrak Tnot Primary School and Lower Secondary School in Kampong Chhnang Province. This project is expected to improve educational environment for over 500 school children at both schools.

The second grant, which amounts to \$107,600, is provided to the Department of Education, Youth and Sport of Phnom Penh Capital City for the construction of a school building with sanitation facilities and the installation of necessary furniture at Prek Kampues Lower Secondary School, Phnom Penh Capital city. This project is expected to provide safe and comfortable educational environment for around 400 students who are currently using the dilapidated school buildings.

The third grant, which amounts to \$118,759, is provided to Krousar Yoeung Association for the construction of 3 pre-school buildings equipped with school furniture and sanitation facilities, at Poeung Toek Pre-school in Ang Snoul

district and at Kbal Koh Teav pre-school and Kampong Thkol pre-school in Koh Thom district, Kandal Province. With this project, over 230 pre-school children will be able to enjoy studying at the safe and comfortable classrooms.

The fourth grant, which amounts to \$120,726, is provided to the Kratie Provincial Teacher Training College in Kratie Province for the construction of a multipurpose building with a science laboratory equipped with school furniture and sanitation facilities at the College. The project is expected to directly benefit about 120 trainees who will become primary school teachers after graduation. In addition, through the improvement of teachers' capacity, about 60,000 primary school students in the province will receive better education.

The construction works of these projects will start soon and is expected to complete within a year. Although there might be some difficulties to continue the work during the rainy season, I am hopeful that these projects will be implemented smoothly.

Finally, I strongly hope that the facilities constructed by these projects will be maintained properly so that as many students and trainee teachers as possible can benefit and thus, they will strengthen the friendly relations existing between the Japanese and Cambodian peoples.

Thank you for your attention.