Speech by Dr. IIZUKA Tomohiro Secretary of the Embassy of Japan at the Inauguration Ceremony of the Project for Constructing Kampong Sralau Muoi River Wharf in Preah Vihear Province, February 19, 2015

- Venerable Monks,
- H.E. Mr. OUM Mara, Governor of Preah Vihear Province,
- Mr. SAM Leangtry, Director of Preah Vihear Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport,
- Excellencies, distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a great pleasure for me to attend today's ceremony for inauguration of Constructing Kampong Sralau Muoi River Wharf in Preah Vihear Province, under the presence of H.E. Mr. Oum Mara, Governor of Preah Vihear Province and Mr. Sam Leangtry, Director of Preah Vihear Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport.

Development of transportation is critically important for promoting economic as well as social activities and in the context of Cambodia, the transportation through rivers is particularly effective and efficient, and even indispensable for many local people, due to its abundant water resources.

The Government of Japan, understanding the importance of the transportation sector for economic and social development in Cambodia, has been assisting the efforts of the Government of Cambodia through the construction of roads, ports and bridges. We believe that the project will also promote the human security of the vulnerable population of the Communes concerned.

By constructing a concrete river wharf, these projects aim to improve water transportation along the Mekong River which is vital for the daily life of the local people in the areas concerned.

I strongly hope that all people attending today's ceremony, Kampong Sralau Muoi Commune, as well as the local people, will maintain and cherish the wharfs as symbols of the friendship between Japan and the Kingdom of Cambodia for many years to come. I also wish the new wharfs will contribute to revitalizing the local economy through the promotion of trade between the two sides of the river.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the people who have contributed to the smooth implementation of the projects. I strongly hope that these cooperation will further strengthen the friendly relations between Japanese and Cambodian people.

Thank you very much for your attention.