Speech by H.E. Mr. HORINOUCHI Hidehisa, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan To the Kingdom of Cambodia At the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for Grassroots Human Security Projects 16 December, 2016

- H.E. Mr. Pich Veasna, Deputy Director General of Administration Affairs, Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
- Dr. Keo Sopheaktra, Director, Banteay Meanchey Provincial Department of Health
- Mr. Oum Vibol, Director, Kampong Cham Provincial Department of Water Resources and Meteorology
- Mr. Leang Seng, Director, Stung Treng Provincial Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- Mr. Eat Sarath, Deputy Director, Pailin Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport
- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to hold a signing ceremony today for four grant contracts of the Grassroots Human Security Projects.

The first grant project, which amounts to \$82,145, is "The Project for Constructing Obstetrics and Pediatrics Ward at Phnum Srok Referral Hospital in Banteay Meanchey Province." The new ward will have an independent obstetrics room and a pediatrics room respectively as well as a delivery room and a consultation room. It is estimated that this project enables approximately 1,900 pediatric patients, 360 obstetric patients and their newborn babies to have access to better medical services.

The second grant project, which amounts to \$82,524, is "The Project for Rehabilitation of Veal Sdoav Irrigation System in Kampong Cham Province." Project components include rehabilitation of a dam, an access road and water gate structures, and construction of culverts. About 3,500 people are expected to gain a constant access to irrigation water after completion of the project.

The third grant project, which amounts to \$83,000, is "The Project for Constructing Agricultural Cooperative Centers in Stung Treng Province." In this project, 3 agricultural cooperative centers will be built for 3 agricultural cooperatives and agricultural machines will also be provided. About 800 people will benefited from activities of the agricultural cooperatives.

The fourth grant project, which amounts to \$82,600, is "The Project for Road Improvement in Pang Rolim Village, O'tavao Commune, Pailin City, Pailin Province." This project is expected to benefit nearly 4,300 people in the region. I hope that the improved road will contribute to revitalizing the local economy through better access to schools, hospitals, markets and other regions.

I hope that these four projects for which we signed grant contracts today will be implemented smoothly and effectively by our recipients. I hope that the facilities to be built and equipment to be provided through these projects, will be maintained in good condition so that they can benefit many local people for many years to come.

Lastly, I hope that the projects will further strengthen the friendly relations existing between Japanese and Cambodian peoples.

Thank you.