

Speech by H.E. Mr. KUMAMARU Yuji,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan
To the Kingdom of Cambodia
At the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects
March 18, 2016

- Mr. Horn Chhan, Director of Preah Vihear Provincial Department of Education, Youth and Sport,
- Mr. Sev Sokhan, Director of Takeo Provincial Department of Education, Youth and Sport,
- Mr. Chou Sereya, Deputy Director of Koh Kong Provincial Department of Education, Youth and Sport,
- Dr. Hem Sareth, Director of Takeo Provincial Department of Health,
- Dr. Glyn Vaughan, Director of All Ears Cambodia,
- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to hold a signing ceremony today for five grant contracts of the Grass-Roots Human Security Projects.

The first grant project which amounts to \$88,948, “The Project for Constructing a School Building at Srayang Primary School in Kuleaen District, Preah Vihear Province” is the 1st school we assist in Preah Vihear Province through KUSANONE, or grassroots grant project. Upon completion of this project, over 970 students will be able to study in less crowded classrooms and more comfortable learning environment.

The second grant project which amounts to \$66,446, “The Project for Constructing a School Building at Angkor Borei Lower Secondary School in Angkor Borei District, Takeo Province” marks the 21st KUSANONE education project in Takeo Province and is expected to improve educational environment for over 870 students.

The third grant project which amounts to \$88,190, “The Project for Constructing School Buildings at Preak Stung Primary School and Veal Primary School in Srae Ambal District, Koh Kong Province” is the 2nd education project in Koh Kong Province. With this project, over 450 primary school students will be able to study in safer and more comfortable classrooms.

The fourth grant project which amounts to \$65,215, “The Project for Installing Medical Equipment at Ang Roka Referral Hospital in Takeo Province” is 9th KUSANONE health sector project in Takeo Province. The new medical equipment will improve health service qualities at the referral hospital and bring benefits to 150,000 local residents.

The fifth grant project which amounts to \$58,541, “The Project for Installing Audiological Equipment in the All Ears Cambodia Siem Reap Clinic in Siem Reap Province” is the 3rd KUSANONE project with All Ears Cambodia. This project is expected to bring benefits to approximately 5,000 patients at the clinic with more accurate medical services.

These projects for which contracts have just been signed aim to improve educational environment for students and teachers, and to provide local residents with high quality medical services in respective project areas. The education and health sectors are prioritized by the Cambodian government and I believe that the two sectors hold a key for the future development of Cambodia. In fact, Japan has been vigorously supporting Cambodia in these two sectors over two decades through grant assistance of both KUSANONE assistance and much larger scale assistance. The assistance comprises constructing schools and hospitals and installing necessary equipment. It is usually accompanied by technical assistance to promote capacity building of teachers and medical staff.

Lastly, I strongly hope that the facilities and equipment which will be installed by these projects will be maintained properly so that they will be used for many years and bring benefit to as many students, teachers and patients as possible. I also hope that these projects will help strengthening the friendly relations existing between Japanese and Cambodian people.

Thank you.