



EMBASSY OF JAPAN
IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

PRESS RELEASE

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Exchange of Notes for Japan's Grant Aid

Friday, 27 October 2017 at 14:30 p.m.
at the Room A, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

In response to a request from the Royal Government of Cambodia and the World Food Programme (hereinafter referred as "WFP"), the Government of Japan has agreed to extend a Grant Assistance of **three hundred and fifty million Japanese Yen (¥350,000,000)**, equivalent to **about 3.2 million US dollars**, to the Kingdom of Cambodia through WFP for the purpose of contributing to the implementation of the School Feeding Programme.

Notes to this effect were exchanged between **Ms. Nancy Walters**, Representative and Country Director of World Food Programme Cambodia, and **H.E. Mr. HORINOUCHI Hidehisa**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia, in the presence of **H. E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron**, Minister of Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport as a witness, on 27 October 2017 at 14:30 am at the Room A, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

In this project, approximately 420 metric tons of canned fish will be provided for breakfasts for school children in the most vulnerable communities. This Grant Aid is extended by the Government of Japan to the Royal Government of Cambodia through WFP with a view to improving food security and access to education in the Kingdom of Cambodia, and further strengthening the cordial and cooperative relations between the two countries.

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**Speech by H.E. Mr. HORINOUCHI Hidehisa
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan
to the Kingdom of Cambodia
At the Signing Ceremony of the Exchange of Notes
October 27th, 2017**

- H. E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Minister, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
- Ms. Nancy Walters, Representative and Country Director, World Food Programme Cambodia,
- Excellencies, Distinguished Guest, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me together with the representative of WFP to sign today the Exchange of Notes on Grant Assistance for the Food Assistance Programme.

First of all, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to H. E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron for his participation in this ceremony.

In this programme, the Japanese Government is going to provide a Grant Assistance of three hundred and fifty million Japanese Yen (¥350,000,000), equivalent to about 3.2 million USD. That will be used to purchase an approximately 420 metric tons of canned fish to be used for breakfasts of school children in the most vulnerable communities through WFP.

Cambodia's economy has grown significantly over the past decades and the poverty rate has decreased dramatically. However, especially in the rural areas, a significant portion of the population still suffer from under nutrition because they lack access to sufficient and various food. Many of those people are only just above the poverty line, and have a high risk of falling into poverty by the slightest income shock.

Under such circumstances, by providing canned fish for the WFP's School Feeding Programme, Japan's assistance will contribute to improve not only food security but also their access to school education. I sincerely hope that our assistance will be effectively used to secure a bright future for children.

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

Thank you.