

**Speech by Mr. MACHIDA Tatsuya,
Counsellor, Embassy of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia
At the Contract Signing Ceremony for
Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project
March 9, 2012**

- Mr. Benjamin Nguyen, Regional Program Director of Handicap International Federation (HIF),
- Mr. Lao Veng, Director of Persons with Disabilities Welfare Department, Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation
- Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to sign the contract with HIF for the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Project today.

I understand that in Cambodia a number of children have become handicapped due to the accidents of remaining land mines placed during wartime period, and there are also quite a few children who are suffering from cerebral paralysis which occurred at the time of birth or early childhood. I heard that unfortunately in some cases those children are neglected at their home without access to proper treatment and rehabilitation.

Based on the request made by HIF and the field survey conducted by Embassy's staff, we recognized the urgent need of the renovation of the rehabilitation facilities in Kampong Cham in order to provide the disabled people with proper rehabilitation services. Thus, the Japanese Government decided to provide the Grant Assistance of USD 39,500 for the renovation of Kampong Cham Physical Rehabilitation Center in Kampong Cham province.

It is expected that the renovation of the rehabilitation center will enable 3,000 clients to receive proper rehabilitation services. I understand that the HIF will change the facilities of the rehabilitation center into barrier-free design and expand a physical therapy room, which will make it possible for more clients to enjoy training than before.

Lastly, I believe that the Project signed today will be implemented smoothly by HIF and maintained properly by the Kampong Cham Physical Rehabilitation Center and I sincerely hope that this Project will further strengthen the friendly relations between Japanese and Cambodian people.

Thank you for your attention.