



Embassy of Japan in the Kingdom of Cambodia

Speech by H.E. Mr. Masafumi KUROKI
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan
to the Kingdom of Cambodia
At the Hand-Over Ceremony of Equipments Provided
Under the Project for Flood Protection and Drainage Improvement
in the Phnom Penh Capital City (Phase III)
Phnom Penh, November 7, 2012

-His Excellency Mr. Kep Chuk Tema, Governor of Phnom Penh Capital City,
-Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

First of all, I would like to express the deepest condolences to the Royal Family, the Government and the people of the Kingdom of Cambodia for the passing of His Majesty King-Father Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK of Cambodia.

For the arrangement of today's handover ceremony, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to H.E. Mr. Kep Chuk Tema, Governor of Phnom Penh Capital City and all the officials who prepared this ceremony.

Phnom Penh has faced with the risk of flooding every year and frequently suffered from inundation and stagnant water. The protection of Phnom Penh from flooding is critically important for its functions as capital city and for its economic activities as well.

In order to improve the drainage systems of the city, the Government of Japan has so far provided three grant aids amounting to 8.4 billion Japanese Yen, equivalent to USD 105 million.

The on-going 3rd phase of the Project, which started in March this year, covers the south-eastern part of the Capital. The construction work may be affecting the traffic in several locations of the city and causing inconveniences to the local

residents. However, once the Project is completed, the coverage areas will be relieved from the problem of flooding.

Today, I am glad to hand over the equipments which is part of the on-going Project. These equipments are two units of High Water-jet Machines and two units of Sludge Suckers. The drainage systems cannot be efficient without proper maintenance and cleaning. These equipments are indispensable for removing the sludge from drainage pipes so that those pipes would continue to function for the release of water. Technical cooperation will be also provided for the handling of those equipments and the planning of cleaning activities.

I hope that, through this Project, Phnom Penh will further improve its functions, enjoy the development and attract more visitors and investment by promoting its image as clean city.

Lastly, I sincerely hope that this cooperation project will further strengthen the friendly relations between Japan and the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Thank you very much for your attention.