



**Speech by H.E.Mr. KUROKI Masafumi
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan
to the Kingdom of Cambodia
at the Inauguration Ceremony of Prek Phnov Primary School,
Phnom Penh, January 10, 2013**

- Venerable monks,
- H.E. Mr. Kep Chuktema, Governor of Phnom Capital City,
- Excellencies, distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to express my 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 today's inauguration ceremony, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to H.E. Mr. Kep Chuktema, Governor of Phnom Capital City for his presence and to all the officials who worked for the preparation of the ceremony.

It is my great pleasure to be at Prek Phnov Primary School today to see the students happy with the new school building donated by the Government of Japan.

All the children have the right to receive education as basic human right and it is important to ensure equal access to education throughout the country. The Royal Government of Cambodia has been making its

efforts to achieve the access to primary school education for all the children under the national plan of “Education for all”. However the improvement of education both in quantity and quality is a long-term process which requires continued efforts. The Government of Japan has been supporting the efforts of the Cambodian Government to improve the education sector by constructing primary and secondary schools and providing school teachers with training.

I was informed that the students of nine classes of Prek Phnov Primary School had to use the classrooms of a nearby secondary school because of the shortage of classrooms. The construction of this new school building with 7 classrooms and sanitation facilities enables all the students to study inside the Primary School.

I hope that the students will study hard under better conditions with new classrooms and maintain the building properly as a symbol of the friendship between Japan and the Kingdom of Cambodia for many years to come.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the people who have contributed to the smooth implementation of the project. I strongly hope that this cooperation will further strengthen the friendly relations between Japanese and Cambodian people.

Thank you very much for your attention.