

**Speech by Mr. KUROMIYA Takayoshi,
Counsellor, the Embassy of Japan in the Kingdom of Cambodia
In the Kingdom of Cambodia
At the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for
Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects
February 26, 2013**

- Mr. SEUY Vongsy, Director of the Stung Treng Regional Teacher Training Center,
- Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to attend this ceremony today for the signing of the contract of the Grant Assistance for the construction of a science laboratory building, together with the representatives of the Stung Treng Regional Teacher Training Center. I am particularly glad that the signing is conducted in the special context of this year 2013 which marks the 60th anniversary of Japan- Cambodia Friendship.

This project aims to improve the training environment for the future teachers at the Stung Treng Regional Teacher Training Center by constructing a new science laboratory building and installing necessary furniture and other facilities in it. The grant to be provided for this project amounts to USD 52,700. The project is expected to directly benefit about 300 trainees who will become primary school teachers in Stung Treng, Mondolkiri and Ratanakiri Provinces after graduation. Through the improvement of teachers' teaching capacity and technique, we also expect that about 63,000 primary school students in the provinces will receive better science education, thus promoting the human security of the vulnerable population.

Education and human resources development holds an important key for the future development of Cambodia. Thus, the Government of Cambodia places a high priority on education, which in fact constitutes one of the four pillars of the Rectangular Strategy for national development.

The Government of Japan, understanding the importance of the education sector in Cambodia, has assisted both in hardware and software including the training for science teachers at Regional Teacher Training Centers and Provincial Teacher Training Colleges from 2008 to 2012. The project we have signed today is closely linked with the above-mentioned training program and this combination of the software and hardware components is expected to produce a positive synergy effect.

I hope that the project for which we proceed to sign the grant contract today will be implemented smoothly and effectively by our partner, the Stung Treng Regional Teacher Training Center, and maintained properly so that many future teachers and their students can benefit from the project.

Last but not least, I sincerely hope that the project will further strengthen the friendly relations existing between the Japanese and Cambodian peoples.

Thank you for your attention.