



**Embassy of Japan
in the Kingdom of Cambodia**

Speech by H.E. Mr. KUMAMARU Yuji,

Ambassador of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia

At the Hand-Over Ceremony of Equipment and Tool Ceremony for the Japan Non-project Grant Aid Fiscal year 2011, for Contributing to the Restoration and Disaster Prevention Efforts for the Areas and People Affected

by the Flood Disaster in 2011

August 28, 2013

- His Excellency Mr. TRAM Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport,
- Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to attend this Hand-Over Ceremony of Equipment and Tool for the Japan Non-project Grant Aid Fiscal year 2011, for Contributing to the Restoration and Disaster Prevention Efforts for the Areas and People Affected by the Flood Disaster in 2011. First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to H.E. Mr. TRAM Iv Tek, Minister of Public Works and Transport and his Ministry's staff for organizing this ceremony.

I am particularly glad that the ceremony for this important project takes place in the special context of the Year 2013 which marks the 60th Anniversary of Japan-Cambodia Friendship.

I was briefed that in 2011 intense rainfall and the subsequent flooding caused serious damages in many parts of Cambodia. Road networks, which are vital

infrastructure for the local residents, severely suffered from the muddy stream, disrupting economic and social activities in some regions.

Japan has placed a high priority on flood prevention in its assistances, understanding the vulnerability in Cambodia. In October 2011, the Government of Japan quickly responded to the flood damage by providing emergency assistance and then later decided to conduct this restoration assistance. This project, amounting to 600 million Japanese yen (approximately \$6 million), aims for restoration and disaster prevention by providing construction machinery, equipment and their spare parts. Training for operation and maintenance was also provided as soft component.

I strongly hope that these equipments will help accelerate the Ministry's restoration activities and revitalize the lives of the local residents as well as upgrade the effectiveness of road maintenance works. It is also expected that newly set up emergency flood units in the Ministry will rapidly intervene the damages on road infrastructures in the future.

Finally, I sincerely hope that the cooperation by the Government and the people of Japan will further strengthen the existing friendly relations between Japan and the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Thank you for your attention.