

**Speech by H.E. Mr. KUMAMARU Yuji,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan
To the Kingdom of Cambodia
At the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for
Grass-Roots Human Security Projects
January 16, 2014**

- H.E. Mr. EK Sonn Chan, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Industry and Handicrafts
- H.E. Mr. KEN Satha Governor of Kep Province
- Mr. YOS Mouny, Director of the Kep Provincial Department of Industry, Mine and Energy,
- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to hold this signing ceremony of Japan's Grant Assistance for the installation of clean water supplying system in Kep Town and Damnak Changaeur District in Kep Province. First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to H.E. Mr. EK Sonn Chan and H.E. Mr. KEN Satha to attend this ceremony and congratulate the project together.

This project, which amounts to \$112,423, aims to improve the access to safe drinking water in the two areas in Kep Province by installing a portable water filtration system with the capacity of processing up to 2,500 liters per hour. The clean water purified through this system will be kept in three large water tanks provided by the project and serviced to the local residents.

The project is expected to benefit approximately 8,500 local residents and 760,000 annual tourists in Kep Town which currently does not have water treatment facility and the local residents are faced with difficulties accessing to safe drinking water. It is also expected that the clean water will contribute to enhance the level of hygiene and health among local communities.

Improving access to safe drinking water is a basic human needs as well as one of the Cambodian Millennium Development Goals, and accordingly, the Government of Japan has placed a priority in this field and has been supporting the efforts of the Cambodian Government since 1993 by constructing water treatment facilities and providing technical cooperation in various parts of the country.

I am hopeful that the project for which we signed a grant contract today will be implemented smoothly and effectively by our partner, the Kep provincial Department of Industry, Mine and Energy, and the clean water supplying system will be operated and maintained properly with the help of Japanese experts so that the project will benefit the local residents for a long time to come.

Lastly, I strongly hope that the project will further strengthen the friendly relations existing between Japanese and Cambodian people.

Thank you very for your attention