

**Speech by H.E. HORINOUCHI Hidehisa,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan
to the Kingdom of Cambodia**

**At the Inauguration Ceremony of the Legal Documentation Centre
Relating to the Extraordinary Chamber in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC)
June 27, 2017**

- His Excellency, Mr. Bing Ching, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Council of Ministers,
- Ms Chea Savon, Director of the Legal Documentation Centre Related to the ECCC
- Excellencies, ambassadors, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to attend the inauguration ceremony of this Legal Documentation Centre. Meanwhile, I extend my deepest condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of H.E. Dr. Sok An, who kept making significant contributions to the establishment of the LDC up until his passing away on March 15.

As Cambodia's long-time friend, Japan has played an active role in promoting the national reconciliation and reconstruction of Cambodia, and has attached great importance to the Khmer Rouge Tribunal. This endeavour is the concluding chapter of the entire Cambodian peace process, and brings justice for the victims and their families, and also strengthens the rule of law in Cambodia. From these points of view, Japan has provided financial and personnel support for the Tribunal since its very inception and has been the top donor to date.

We strongly believe that the LDC, which opens today, has great value for preserving the legacies of the Tribunal. The Centre has a meaningful role to pass down, from generation to generation, the facts established in the Tribunal. The LDC will enhance people's access to public documents relating to the Khmer Rouge Tribunal and facilitate the dissemination of the voices of the victims to the general public.

For these reasons, Japan decided to support the LDC and it has contributed about 2.4 million US dollars for this project.

In order that the past tragedy will never be repeated, I desire that the LDC will be utilized by a wide range of people, including the victims, civil parties and learners from various areas. I hope that this assistance from Japan will further strengthen the close and friendly relations between Japan and the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Thank you for your attention.