

**Remarks by H.E. Ambassador Ryuta Mizuuchi on the Occasion of
JOICFP's Grant Contract Signing Ceremony at the
Ambassador's Residence, Leopard Hills Road 16C, Lusaka
On January 28th, 2020**

Ms. GOTO Kumiko, General Project Manager, representing Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning, or JOICFP,
Ms. Nangandu Joan Kamwale, Executive Director, Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia, or PPAZ,
Mrs. Alice Chembe, Manager, Service delivery, PPAZ,
Representatives from the Media,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honour and pleasure to welcome you to my residence on the occasion of the Signing Ceremony of the Grant Contract of a project within the framework of "Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO projects" by the Government of Japan. Today, it is the project titled "Promotion of Women's Health throughout the Life Cycle at One Stop Service Site in Zambia (Phase Three)" implemented by JOICFP, that will be officially sealed and launched by the signing. Its total budget amounts to up to 331,087 US dollars.

In the outset, I am glad to have Ms. GOTO Kumiko, Ms. Nangandu Joan Kamwale and Mrs. Alice Chembe here in my residence, with Ms. Goto, in particular, for the second time in one week, following the Activity Report Presentation, which indicates how closely JOICFP works with the Embassy.

Building on JOICFP's on-going project in support of the maternal and child health (MCH) sector in Zambia, in particular in Masaiti, Mpongwe and Lufwanyama districts, Copperbelt Province, the next phase three aims to ensure local communities in 16 target areas to take over the activities that have been implemented by JOICFP to date, including the aspect of bringing health and business together, so that the sustainability of the entire project will be ensured and the fruit of the cooperation will be further ripened.

At the end of the phase three of the project in the target districts, it is expected that the health offices and local communities will be able to continue implementation of the JOICFP's activities by themselves. Moreover, it is expected that JOICFP's analysis on the outcome of the project will be utilized as a model of sustainable MCH promotion project in this country. It is of great importance that JOICFP's activities will be transferred to other parts of Zambia and benefit the people across the country.

In concluding, I appreciate the contribution by JOICFP for the Zambian health sector anew, and hope that after completion of JOICFP's project, the health

sector in Zambia will emerge as a robust, self-sustainable system that will serve as a basis to ensure the well-being of all women in Zambia and support the sustainable development of this country. I wish JOICFP and its staff, as well as its partners in Copperbelt Province and the people there all the best and success to this cause!

Thank you