

**Remarks by Ambassador H.E. Mr. TAKEUCHI Kazuyuki on the Occasion of  
Japanese NGO's Grant Contracts Signing Ceremony  
Lusaka, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Her Honour, The Vice-President, Mrs. Mutale W. K. Nalumango,  
Honourable Minister of Health, Ms. Sylvia T. Masebo,  
Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Internal Security, Mr. Jack Mwiimbu,  
Honourable Minister of Education, Mr. Douglass Siakalima,  
Her Worship, Ms. Chilando Chitangala, Mayor of the City of Lusaka,  
Ms. AMANO Satomi, Acting Country Representative, Japan Anti-Tuberculosis  
Association (JATA),  
Mr. AKIMOTO Yasutaka, County Representative, Association for Aid and Relief, Japan  
(AAR Japan),  
Representatives from the Media, s  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honor and pleasure to welcome you to my residence on the occasion of the Signing Ceremony of the Grant Contracts of projects within the framework of “Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects” by the Government of Japan. Today, three new projects by three different Japanese NGOs, the total grant amounting to approximately 1,459,000 United States dollars, will be officially sealed by the signing.

The Government of Japan will provide a grant amounting to 485,703 United States dollars to Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association (JATA). The purpose of the grant is to facilitate the implementation of the “Tuberculosis (TB) Control project through the Strengthening Case Finding and Management at Health Facilities in Lusaka District, Phase One” at Matero and Chilenje Level One Hospitals, as well as, George and Bauleni Clinics in Lusaka.

Although TB is a disease that can be cured with treatment when detected early, it can be fatal if the disease becomes severe. It is hoped that the people of Zambia will understand through this project that prevention of the worsening effects will not only benefit the patients themselves, but also lead to keeping TB away from the entire community.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Government of Japan will also provide a grant amounting to 413,665 United States dollars to the Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan). It is to assist the implementation of the Project for “Promoting Basic Education in Maheba Refugee Settlement, Phase One”. The grant will contribute to the provision of secondary education for children, school management skills for their parents, literacy education for youths and adults, and capacity building through teacher training in Meheba.

Japan is cognizant of Zambia’s significant efforts and contribution, since independence, to regional peace and stability in Southern Africa. It is a great honor for the Government of Japan to continue supporting the Local Integration Programme, which is a unique, outstanding world-class achievement. It is hoped that educational inequality among all residents in Meheba, including refugees, former refugees and Zambians, will be remedied through this project, subsequently leading to poverty reduction among them.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In addition to the two projects that I have already mentioned, the Government of Japan will provide a grant amounting to 559,938 United States dollars to the Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning (JOICFP). The purpose of this grant is to contribute to the Project for “Promotion of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Prevention and Care through Community Empowerment, Phase One”.

It is said that one in four women and girls in the world suffers from GBV, which is a global epidemic that affects all social classes, economic status and countries. This particular project by JOICFP is expected to establish a place and system where victims can consult with trained personnel, and also help all stakeholders understand gender equality and gender norms. Japan is pleased to be able to contribute through the Japanese NGO to the realisation of economic development for Zambia, by uniting the people, men and women alike.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to mention that, the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects is a scheme to provide funds for economic and social development projects undertaken by Japanese NGOs in developing countries and regions. The aim of this scheme is to provide timely

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and direct support to Japanese NGOs involved in community development, primary health care, education, poverty relief and support for the less privileged people in society.

I would like to recall that His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, states in a number of addresses, that economic success requires educating the people and keeping them healthy. Through these three projects supported by the Government of Japan, I am confident that we will be able to contribute to reducing poverty in the affected communities and boosting economic development by improving TB control, GBV awareness and education equality among the Zambian people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I now conclude my remarks by expressing my appreciation to JATA, AAR Japan and JOICFP for their great contribution to date; and wishing their staff every success in their future activities.

Thank you.