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the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Hands Over New Equipment to the Fiji Meteorological Service

The Government of Japan has provided new equipment worth FJ\$5million to the Fiji Meteorological Service(FMS) for improvement of Disaster Risk Management in Fiji. H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, will hand over the above-mentioned equipment to Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Hon. Parveen Kumar at a ceremony to be held at the FMS Head Office, at Korowai Road, AFL Estate in Nadi at 10:30 am, on Friday, 29 May 2015.

We welcome your attendance at the ceremony, and for further queries please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp or eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and telephone number: 3304633.

Details for the Project for Improvement of Equipment for Disaster Risk Management

1. Basis for Implementing the Project

This Grant Aid scheme is aimed at promoting international co-operation in the field of disaster management by providing equipment for strengthening disaster management capabilities of recipient countries.

Japan recognises the hardship that Fiji has endured through natural disasters. The provision of technologically advanced meteorological equipment through this project will significantly raise Fiji's capacity to predict and monitor natural disasters such as floods, tsunamis, formation and path of cyclones as well as other weather anomalies. This would save more lives and aid the people of Fiji as well as Pacific Island Countries in preparing ahead for future natural disasters.

2. Basic Information

- (a) Donor : The Government of Japan
- (b) Recipient : The Government of the Republic of Fiji
- (c) Implementing agency : Fiji Meteorological Service(FMS)
- (c) Total Value of the Funding Assistance: FJ\$5.7million

3. Long Term Benefits of the Project

Besides enhancing the capabilities of the FMS, the technology provided by this project will enable feed of real time data through the Japanese meteorological satellite, the "HIMAWARI".

The delivery of this project extends not only within Fiji but also to other Pacific Island Countries because the FMS also serves the South Pacific Region.

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4. History of Japan's assistance

Japan's assistance to the FMS dates back to 1995 starting with the project for construction of its Head Office. This also includes upgrading of meteorological observation and forecasting system and enhancing capacity development for disaster risk management under JICA's technical cooperation.

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