

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Formalizes Grant Aid for TC Winston Assistance to Fiji

The Government of Japan will provide funding for the project titled "The Economic and Social Development Programme" worth 100 million Japanese Yen (app. FJ\$1.82m) under its Grant Aid Programme.

Hon. Rear Admiral (Retired) Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji and H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan will formalize Japan's assistance to Fiji at an Exchange of Notes signing ceremony hosted by the Office of the Prime Minister, Conference Room, Level 4 New Wing, Government Buildings, Suva, at **10:00 am on Thursday 9 March 2017**.

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.

Outline on the Series for TC Winston Assistance by Japan

1. Emergency Relief Items

Emergency relief items (440 tents, 420 sleeping pads, 120 plastic sheets, 25 generators and 25 connecting codes) worth 19 million Yen (app. US\$170,000) were provided to the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

2. Economic and Social Development Programme (I)

In May 2016, a Grant Aid of 300 million Japanese Yen (app. US\$2.67m or FJ\$5.72m) was provided to the Government of Fiji to assist with restoration and rehabilitation efforts. This grant aid will allow the Government of Fiji to identify and procure items that are critical to restoration and rehabilitation needs such as machinery, construction materials or consumables essential to restoring normalcy into the lives of the Fijian people. This project is implemented under the Economic and Social Development Programme and currently ongoing.

3. Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme

This is the Government of Japan's initial assistance for Fiji's "Adopt a School" programme. The total value of this assistance is FJ\$3,163,503 and will include the reconstruction and rehabilitation of classroom buildings for four schools as well as the provision of desks and chairs for teachers and students. This project is on-going.

4. Economic and Social Development Programme (II)

In line with the formalization on 9 March 2017 and to support Fiji's on-going rehabilitation efforts, Japan will provide an additional 100 million Japanese Yen (app. FJ\$1.82m) to its ongoing programmes which will make Japan's overall direct funding contribution towards TC Winston recovery worth approximately FJ\$11m. As part of Japan's Grant Aid programme the Fijian Government will have to identify items needed for Fiji's restoration efforts such machinery, construction materials or consumables that are essential to Fiji's recovery. Japan International Cooperation Systems (JICS) will act as Fiji's procurement agent.

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