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the People of Japan

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Formalization of Japan's Grant Aid for "The Project for Reconstruction of the Nippon Causeway"**

The Government of Japan will provide funding for "The Project for Reconstruction of the Nippon Causeway" worth 3.8 billion Japanese Yen (approximately US\$37m or AU\$49m) under its Grant Aid Programme.

His Excellency Taneti Maamau, Te Beretitenti (President) of the Republic of Kiribati and H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan will formalize Japan's assistance to Kiribati at an Exchange of Notes signing ceremony hosted by the Government of the Republic of Kiribati, in Tarawa, at 3:15 PM, on Monday, 11 July 2016.

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](mailto:peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp) or [eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp](mailto:eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp) and telephone number: (+679)3304633.

### **Details for the Project for Reconstruction of the Nippon Causeway**

#### **1. Basis for Implementing the Project**

The Nippon Causeway is the only link between the two most populated towns in Tarawa namely, Betio, where the country's only international port is located, and Bairiki, an administrative centre that has most of the Government Ministries and offices. The causeway was constructed in 1987 through Japan's Grant Aid Programme, but through time as well as by encroachment of the sea it has deteriorated. In March 2015, the causeway was heavily damaged by heavy rains and storm surges, prompting the need for repairs which forced the authorities to impose a load restriction and limit traffic to one lane, thereby hindering the transportation of goods and people.

Based on addressing such difficulties faced by the people of Kiribati, the Government of Japan decided to fund the reconstruction of Nippon Causeway in line with Kiribati's national development framework.

#### **2. Basic Information**

##### **(a) Donor: The Government of Japan**

Implementing Agency: JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)

##### **(b) Recipient: The Government of the Republic of Kiribati**

Implementing Organization: Ministry of Public Works and Utilities

##### **(c) Total Value of the Funding Assistance: AU\$49million (JPY 3.805 billion)**

**END.**