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the People of Japan

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Japan Hands Over New Cargo/Passenger Vessel to Tuvalu**

The Government of Japan has provided a new cargo/passenger vessel, the 'Nivaga III' worth AU\$18 million to the Government of Tuvalu. H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, will hand over the above-mentioned vessel to the Acting Prime Minister, Hon. Maatia Toafa at a ceremony to be held at Funafuti Port in Tuvalu at 08:00 am, on Wednesday, 9 December 2015.

We welcome your attendance at the ceremony, and for further queries please contact Ms. Vanessa Vudikaria on email address: [vanessa.macaraig@fj.mofa.go.jp](mailto:vanessa.macaraig@fj.mofa.go.jp) and telephone number: (+679)3304633.

### **Details for the Project for Construction of a Cargo/Passenger Vessel**

#### 1. Basis for Implementing the Project

This project is implemented under Japan's Grant Aid Programme. The main aim of this project is to enhance inter-island shipping in Tuvalu as a major component of the overall development of the country. There are 9 main atolls in Tuvalu but there is no domestic airline for inter-island routes. Sea transport is therefore very important for Tuvalu.

Based on such importance, Japan built the new cargo/passenger vessel to improve access not only to islands within Tuvalu but also for calling at ports internationally.

#### 2. Basic Information

(a) Donor : The Government of Japan

(b) Recipient : The Government of Tuvalu

(c) Implementing agency : Ministry of Communications and Transport

(c) Total Value of the Funding Assistance: AU\$18million (JPY 1.544 billion)

#### 3. History of Japan's Assistance

Japan has provided assistance to Tuvalu in the area of health, education and infrastructure, which are all essential to socio-economic development.

- 1995: The Project for Reconstruction of the Fisheries Harbour at Vaitupu (US\$5.8 million/ JPY 543 million)
- 1996: The Project for Upgrading and Expansion of Educational Facilities at Motofoua Secondary School (US\$ 5.6 million/ JPY 608 million)
- 2000: The Project for Construction of the Inter-Island Vessel for Outer Island Fisheries Development (US\$ 8.4 million/ JPY 901 million)
- 2001-02: The Project for Construction and Supply of Medical Equipment for Princess Margaret Hospital (US\$ 5.7 million/ JPY 705 million)

# **PRESS RELEASE**

- 2005: The Project for the Upgrading of Electric Power Supply in Funafuti Atoll (US\$ 7.5 million/ JPY 925 million)
- 2007: The Project for Improvement of Funafuti Port (US\$ 8 million/ JPY 932 million)
- 2010: The Project for Improvement of Medium Wave Radio Broadcasting Network and Disaster Prevention (US\$ 8.7 million/ JPY 801 million)
- 2011: The Project for Improvement of Education Facilities at Motofoua Secondary School (US\$8.6 million/ JPY 692 million)

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