

## PRESS RELEASE

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## **Japan Formalizes Assistance to Lautoka City Council**

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth up to US\$84,337 (FJ\$161,009) to Lautoka City Council through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. H.E. Mr. Masahiro Omura, Ambassador of Japan, will sign the grant contracts with the recipient to formalize Japan's assistance at a signing ceremony, at Level 3, Fiji FA House, Gladstone Rd, Suva, at 12:30 pm on Monday, 05 February 2018. The Honourable Praveen Kumar Bala, Minister for Local Government, Housing and Environment, Infrastructure and Transport, will also be present to witness this occasion.

You are most welcome to the ceremony. For further queries, please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: <a href="mailto:peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp">peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp</a> or <a href="mailto:eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp">eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp</a> and phone number: 3304633.

## **Details for the Lautoka City Council Project**

- 1. The Project for Provision of Garbage Truck to Lautoka City
- (a) Recipient: Lautoka City Council (Western Division)
- (b) Grant Contract Signatory: Mr. Jone Nakauvadra, Chief Executive Officer, Lautoka City Council
- (c) Details: Lautoka City Council will receive up to US\$84,337 (FJ\$161,009) for the purchase of a five-ton garbage truck. The Council's current fleet has suffered considerable wear and tear due to the heavy demand for waste collection which is approximately 20 tonnes per day. The Council resorted to hiring open trucks to ensure waste collection schedule is aptly covered. These open trucks pose occupational, health and safety risks to the garbage collectors and general public. These open trucks make extra runs to the Vunato Disposal Site to discharge collected waste which is inefficient and uneconomical for the Council in the long run. This project aims to improve waste management operations of the Council by providing an efficient, hazard free and timely waste collection service to the people of the Lautoka City.

The GGP Programme is part of the overall Japanese ODA implemented by the Embassy of Japan in order to empower the people from the grassroots level. The GGP Programme in Fiji has been widely implemented in areas such as education, water supply, health, transportation, IT, agriculture and fisheries since 1990. To date, 358 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value exceeding USD 24 million.

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