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the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No: 13/2018

Date: 12 March 2018

Japan Hands Over New Facilities to Nauti Primary School and Solid Waste Agency of Tuvalu

The Government of Japan has provided to a new school bus to the Nauti Primary School and a garbage truck to Solid Waste Agency of Tuvalu (SWAT). The total value of assistance is AU\$149,409 which is funded through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. Mr. Genta Yamada, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Tuvalu, will hand over the school bus to Funafuti Kaupule, and the garbage truck to SWAT during the Handover Ceremony at the National Coordination Centre, Vaiaku, Funafuti, Tuvalu, at 3.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 13 March, 2018.

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Details for the Two Projects

1. *The Project for Provision of School Bus to Nauti Primary School*

(i) Basis for Implementing the Project

Nauti Primary school is located in the middle of Funafuti Island so students have walk around one hour from far north and south end of the island to reach the school. The typical hot weather in Tuvalu with strong sunshine poses the risk of heat strokes to students on sunny days and during rainy days, students often get sick. Due to adverse weather conditions, the school has experienced a high absence rate from around 100 students who attend school from both ends of the island. Responding to Funafuti Kaupule's request, the Embassy decided to assist the school and students by providing a new 30-seater bus to transport students from homes to school and vice versa.

(ii) Basic Information

- (a) Donor: Embassy of Japan in Tuvalu
- (b) Recipient: Funafuti Kaupule
- (c) Total Value of the Funding Assistance: AU\$69,651 for the provision of a new 30-seater School Bus

(iii) Long Term Benefits of the Project

Through this project, the Embassy aims to reduce the absence rate in the school and assist student participation in classes.

2. *The Project for Provision of Garbage Truck in Funafuti*

- (i) In the past, SWAT used three vehicles for garbage collections in Funafuti. These were one tractor with a trailer for household waste and two open trucks for green waste. However, the two trucks were too small to collect large quantities of green waste. Thus, these trucks needed to make multiple trips which financially burdened SWAT. In addition, the existing vehicles often needed repairs as they are quite old and in deteriorated condition. Due to these reasons, SWAT was unable operate the vehicles regularly, which led to adverse sanitary conditions in Funafuti. Responding to SWAT's request, the Embassy has decided to assist by providing a new garbage truck.

(ii) Basic Information

- (a) Donor: Embassy of Japan in Tuvalu
- (b) Recipient: Solid Waste Agency of Tuvalu (SWAT)
- (c) Total Value of the Funding Assistance: AU\$79,758 for the provision of a new garbage truck.

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(iii) Long Term Benefits of the Project

Through this project, SWAT will be able to ensure a comfortable and sanitary environment for citizens through regular garbage collection with a larger garbage truck.

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

Japan's assistance to these projects indicates its commitment to contribute to the improvement of the living standards and welfare of people in Tuvalu and is in line with its Official Development Assistance (ODA) policy of promoting development at the grassroots level. The GGP Programme is specifically designed to address basic human needs, which include water supply, health, basic education, vocational training and rural infrastructure since 1992. To date, 43 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value of US\$ 2.91 million. The Embassy of Japan hopes that this assistance will help further strengthen friendly ties between the governments and the people of Tuvalu and Japan.

END.