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**Speech by Mr. Tsuguyoshi Hada, Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission,  
Embassy of Japan, at the Handing Over Ceremony of Medical Equipment to  
the Republic of Nauru at 11:00am, 29 June 2018,  
the Republic of Nauru Hospital**

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Hon. Charmaine Scotty, Minister for Health, Home Affairs and  
Education,

Mr. Rayong Itsimaera, Secretary for Health and Medical Services,

Mr. Michael Aroi, Secretary for Foreign Affairs,

Members of the Diplomatic Corps,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Omo Yoran, Good Morning and Ohayo Gozaimasu

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the Government of  
the Republic of Nauru for the warm hospitality extended to me  
and my colleagues since our arrival here.

Today, I am honoured to hand over medical equipment and  
supplies worth 200 Million Japanese Yen, or approximately 2.5  
Million Australian Dollars to Republic of Nauru Hospital, which is  
provided under Japan's 'Economic Social Development  
Programme'. The state of the art medical equipment will support  
the hospital's diagnostic, treatment and patient monitoring

activities, enabling higher standard medical care to the people of Nauru.

May I also take this opportunity to convey on behalf of the people and Government of Japan, my sincere appreciation to His Excellency President Waqa and the First Lady for their distinguished participation in the 8th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM8) held in Japan last month. In the meeting the leaders stressed the importance of cooperation to elevate the quality of medical services and the welfare of the people of the Pacific and to accelerate progress towards universal health coverage through access to better diagnostics, better screening, essential medicines and medical equipment, and human resource development.

Over the years, under its 'Economic Social Development Programme', Japan has been providing continued assistance to key sectors in Nauru, more recently in the area of Fisheries with the provision of 'Aquaculture Equipment', in the area of transport with the provision of two sea mules for Aiwo harbour and today we are providing medical equipment. Also during the bilateral meeting that was held between our countries during the PALM8 in

Japan, Prime Minister Abe had informed His Excellency President Waqa that Japan intends to provide support for the improvement of Aiwo Harbour through a grant aid worth 250 Million Yen or approximately 3 Million Australian Dollars under this 'Economic Social Development Programme'. Under auspices of such a commitment, we look forward to expediting this grant aid in due course.

I sincerely hope that medical items handed over today will serve the people of Nauru for many years ahead.

I conclude with confidence that this Grant Aid will further strengthen friendship between the people and governments of Nauru and Japan.

Tubwa Kor (Tooba Karr), Thank You and Arigato Gozaimasu.

**END**