



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Formalises Grant Aid for Medical Equipment to the Republic of Nauru

The Government of Japan will provide assistance worth 100 million Japanese Yen (approximately AU\$1.3 million) to the Government of the Republic of Nauru through its Economic Social Development Programme (ESDP). The funding assistance will enable the procurement of equipment to support the efficient delivery of health and medical services in Nauru.

H.E. Mr. Michael Aroi, Nauru High Commissioner to Fiji, and H.E. Mr. OMURA Masahiro, Ambassador of Japan, will formalise Japan's assistance to Nauru at an Exchange of Notes signing ceremony **hosted at the Embassy of Japan, Level 2, BSP Life Centre, Suva, at 10:00AM, on Tuesday, 23 June 2020.**

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 or eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and telephone number: (+679) 3304633.

Details of the Programme

- 1) The Government of the Republic of Nauru will receive 100 million Japanese Yen (approximately 1.3 million AUD) to purchase various medical equipment for improving health and medical service delivery. Although Nauru has yet to have a positive case of COVID-19, the ongoing global pandemic has brought about the need to strengthen health systems in order to increase the country's preparedness.
- 2) This assistance supports the Nauru National Sustainable Development Strategy 2005-2025, which includes the provision of quality and effective service delivery in the health sector through the upgrading of health facilities. It is also aligned with the Eighth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM8) Leaders' Declaration, where the Leaders agreed that to achieve resilient and sustainable development in major sectors of the economy including health, a special consideration needs to be channelled towards enhancing cooperation to elevate the quality of medical services and the welfare of the people in the Pacific and to accelerate progress towards a universal health coverage through access to better diagnostic, better screening, essential medicines and medical equipment and human resources development. The current COVID-19 pandemic has increased the urgency of this goal, and Japan is committed to cooperate actively with the international community to respond to this global crisis from not only a short-term viewpoint but also a medium to long-term development perspective.
- 3) In 2018, Japan assisted the medical sector in Nauru through the provision of medical equipment worth 200 million Japanese Yen (approximately 2.5 million AUD). The Republic of Nauru Hospital received diagnostic and surgical equipment including intensive care unit monitoring systems. Together, the equipment procured using these two grants serve to strengthen the Nauru health sector's capacity to deal not only with existing issues like non-communicable diseases (NCDs), but also with emerging issues like the current pandemic.

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