
Speech by Mr. TANAKA Kenichiro, Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission Embassy of Japan, at the Handing Over Ceremony for Medical Equipment to the Republic of Nauru at 2.30pm, 2 November 2022, Ron Hospital – Nauru.

Mrs. Chanda Garabwan, Permanent Secretary for Department of Health & Medical Services,

Management and Staff of the Republic of Nauru Hospital,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon, Ekamowir omo, and Konichiwa to you all.

Firstly, I wish to convey my sincere appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to me and my colleagues since our arrival in Nauru. And I thank Mrs. Chanda Garabwan, and the respective Nauru officials for hosting this Handing over Ceremony for the “Project for Provision of Medical Equipments”.

On behalf of the Government and people of Japan, I take this opportunity to congratulate His Excellency Mr. Russ Kun, on his successful election as the President of Nauru. It is indeed an honor to work with the new Government, and I look forward to further strengthening relations between our two countries through a closer partnership.

Today's handing over ceremony adds to the historic bond and mutual trust that is shared between the Government of Nauru and Japan. During the teleconference bilateral meeting that was held on the margins of PALM 9, former Prime Minister Suga expressed Japan's intention to continue supporting Nauru with measures against COVID-19 through the continued improvement of Nauru's health and medical services.

It is my pleasure to be here today to deliver on that commitment and represent the Government and the people of Japan in handing over these specialized monitoring equipment and ICU beds to the Republic of Nauru Hospital. These items were funded under Japan's 'Economic and Social Development Program' or ESDP, as part of the 100 Million Japanese Yen grant, which is approximately 1.5 Million Australian Dollars. I am hopeful the remaining items to be delivered under this grant will be received in Nauru by the end of

this year. I have confidence that these equipment will support the hospital's treatment and patient monitoring to deliver an efficient medical care to the people of Nauru.

Over the years, Japan has been providing continued assistance to Nauru Under the ESDP scheme. Japan supported the Government of Nauru in various areas such as Fisheries, with the provision of 'Aquaculture Equipment', Transport, the provision of medical equipment to the Republic of Nauru Hospital in 2018 and equipment and machinery for sustainable waste management, to name a few.

Congratulations once again on receiving these equipment. I sincerely hope that with proper care and timely maintenance, these items will diligently serve the people of Nauru for many years ahead.

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

Tubwa Kor, Thank You and Arigato Gozaimasu.

END