

# Embassy of Japan

P.O. BOX 300, Republic of the Marshall Islands 96960  
PHONE: 652-3311

## ***Press Release***

### ***Japan hands over basic medical equipment to Marshall Islands***

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**Date: July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Majuro, Marshall Islands**

On Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020, His Excellency Norio Saito, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, handed over basic medical equipment to Honorable Bruce Bilimon, Minister of Health and Human Services of the Republic of the Marshall Islands at the Minister's office.

The handed-over medical equipment, namely, 100 units of Stethoscope and 200 units of Blood pressure manometer is part of Japanese grant for medical equipment, approximately 3.1 million US dollars, signed on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 between H.E. Ambassador Norio Saito and Honorable Casten Nemra, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Stethoscopes and Blood pressure manometers are supposed to be delivered to all the 49 public clinics including those of neighboring islands. Other medical equipment such as Radiography system, Fluoroscopy, CT scanner, C-Arm, etc. will be delivered to Majuro Hospital and Ebeye Hospital as soon as getting ready.

At the ceremony, H.E. Ambassador Norio Saito stated that Pandemic situation of COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus infection) is a big threat for our economic and social life. Ambassador Saito continued that urgent assistance is needed and important, and at the same time, Japan considers it is critical to improve fundamental medical capacity from the long-term point of view.

Ambassador Saito added; "Having started to support construction of Majuro Hospital in 2003, Japan has been continuously assisting in provision of necessary facilities and medical equipment for Majuro Hospital and Ebeye Hospital. We are thankful to know that good care has been taken for the granted equipment for a long time. It is important, and then, honor for us to renew the equipment of deteriorated condition up to date in order to guarantee and to upgrade quality of medical services. I shall be grateful for your understanding of Japanese commitment to betterment of medical services in Marshall Islands in future."

Hon. Bruce Bilimon, on behalf of the government of RMI, expressed his sincere gratitude to the people and the government of Japan for the continued assistance targeting improvement of medical services of Marshall Islands from long-term point of view. He gave sincere thanks for basic medical equipment to be distributed to public clinics in the neighboring islands due to absolute needs for such equipment in those islands.

**For more information, please contact:**

Embassy of Japan (Email: [mariko.senda@mofa.go.jp](mailto:mariko.senda@mofa.go.jp))  
Mariko Senda, First Secretary, Tel: 625-3311

