

Embassy of Japan

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Press Release

Japan handed-over equipment for oil spill treatment to EPA

Date: February 12, 2021
Majuro, Marshall Islands

On Friday, February 12, 2021, His Excellency Norio Saito, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, handed over 4 van cargo trucks to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) represented by Ms. Moriana Phillip, General Manager of EPA. The ceremony was witnessed by Honorable Christopher J. Loeak, Minister In-Assistance to the President and Environment, Honorable Casten N. Nemra, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Honorable Alington Robert, Mayor of Jaluit Atoll and Mr. Kimber Rilometo, Deputy General Manager of EPA.

The trucks as the 1st batch were a part of the oil spill treatment equipment granted through Japanese Grant Aid, “the Economic and Social Development Programme”, total value of which is 200 million Japanese Yen (approximately 1.9 million US dollars at the current exchange rate), signed on July 18, 2018. Those trucks will be distributed to EPA office of Majuro, Ebeye, Jaluit and Woje; and utilized to transport necessary equipment from each EPA office to the nearest wharf when oil spill accident happens. Other equipment such as oil fence, portable storage tanks, oil absorbent booms and pads including boats will be delivered as soon as getting ready.

At the ceremony, H.E. Ambassador Norio Saito stated that the Grant to support the Marshall Islands oil spill treatment was announced by the then Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe, on the occasion of the Eighth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM8) held in Japan in 2018. Ambassador Saito added; “Japan is committed to peace and stability of the Pacific region through cooperation in the fields of maritime safety and disaster risk reduction, based on our concept for the region as “Free and Open Indo-Pacific.” Considering the gravity of preserving marine environment and ecosystem, it is our pleasure, on behalf of the people and government of Japan, to assist Marshall Islands efforts to raise capacity in oil spill response.”

Honorable Casten Nemura, in Honorable Christopher Loyak’s stead, extended “Komol tata”, highest appreciation, for the assistance in elevation of response to oil spill incident, to the people and government of Japan, on behalf of the leadership of the RMI government and all people of the Marshall Islands.

For more information, please contact:

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