

# *Embassy of Japan*

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## *Press Release*

### *Japan handed over fishery equipment to MIMRA*

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Date: September 2, 2021  
Majuro, Marshall Islands

On Thursday, September 2, 2021, His Excellency, SAITO Norio, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of the Marshall Islands handed over fishery equipment to Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) represented by Mr. Glen Joseph, Director of MIMRA. The fishery equipment includes eleven (11) boats, four (4) cargo trucks, one (1) crane truck, one (1) forklift and other fishery equipment such as eight (8) weighting scales, two (2) fish cutters, two (2) vacuum packers, one (1) multi wrapper and seventy-eight (78) cooler boxes. The handover ceremony was attended by Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Casten Nemra, Honorable Minister of Finance, Banking and Postal Services Alfred Alfred Jr., Honorable Minister of Health and Human Services Bruce Bilimon, Iroojlaplap and Honorable Senator of Kwajalein Michael Kabua, Honorable Senator of Namu Tony Aiseia, Iroojlaplap Boklon Zackious and government officials.

The fishery equipment sets were donated through Japan's Grant Aid "the Economic and Social Development Programme" signed on March 18, 2019. The total value of the equipment handed over on this day is approximately 1 million US dollars at the current exchange rate. The fishery equipment will be used at Outer Islands Fish Market Center in Uliga, Kwajalein Atoll Fish Market as well as in neighboring atolls, with the aim of improving fishery infrastructure and the fish distribution network from the neighboring atolls.

At the ceremony, Ambassador Saito appreciated the long-lasting fishery cooperation between the Marshall Islands and Japan, which has been in place since before the diplomatic relations were established in 1988. Ambassador Saito also appreciated the Marshall Islands for its continued cooperation on the sustainable use of fishery resources. "The provision of boats, trucks and a forklift embodies the Pacific Kizuna (Bond) Policy announced at the 9<sup>th</sup> Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting in July, where priority areas of cooperation was determined. One of which is "Strengthening Foundation for Sustainable and Resilient Economic Development" stated the Ambassador Saito at the handover ceremony.

Honorable Casten Nemra extended his appreciation for Japan's continued assistance in supporting the sustainable fishery industry of the Marshall Islands.

#### **For more information, please contact:**

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