Embassy of Japan

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Press Release

Japan Grants School Buses to Woja Public Elementary School, North Delap Elementary School, and Majuro Seventh-day Adventist Schools System

Date: March 16, 2023 Majuro, Marshall Islands

Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, H.E. TANAKA Kazunari and principals signed the Grant Contract at the Embassy of Japan for "The Project for Procurement of School Bus" as follows:

- ·Woja Public Elementary School signed by Mr. Allen Isaac, Principal of Woja Public Elementary School (amounting up to US\$87,375)
- •North Delap Elementary School signed by Mr. Rolando Anien, Principal of North Delap Elementary School (amounting up to US\$87,375), and
- ·Majuro Seventh-day Adventist Schools System signed by Ms. Emgie Riano, Principal of Majuro Seventh-day Adventist Schools System (amounting up to US\$87,375)

They were funded through the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) by the Government of Japan. The ceremony was witnessed by Mr. Flitz Phillip, on behalf of Associate Commissioner for Primary Education, Mr. Cassiano Jetnil, Associate Commissioner for Property & Maintenance, Public School System of the Ministry of Education, Sports & Training, and other representatives from three schools.

These three schools have been facing difficulties in providing proper transportation for students residing in distant areas. With this project, students will secure a safe and proper transportation between school and their homes, which will contribute to improving educational environment for students as well as for school.

At the ceremony, Ambassador TANAKA stated, "I am very pleased that the provision of a bus to each school will help more than 300 students commute to their school safely and timely. The buses are expected to be used for school events, as well, and it means these projects will benefit more than 900 students in three schools by way of improving their educational environment." He further stated that, over the past 20 years, Japan has been continuously supporting the education sector in the Republic of Marshall Islands and has donated more than 20 school buses. And he added that, as you know, the "Education and Training" is placed as one of the strategic areas under "Social and Culture" pillar in the

National Strategic Plan 2020-2030" of the Republic of Marshall Islands, and the Government of Japan has also placed "the strengthening of education" as one of its priorities in its Development Cooperation Policy for RMI.

Mr. Phillip from the Ministry of Education thanked that on behalf of Associate Commissioner for Primary Education, Public School System of the Ministry of Education, Sports & Training, he expressed their sincere gratitude to the people and Government of Japan for generous assistance to the schools most especially to the students. Each principal also emphasized their great appreciation and reiterated that buses are something they earnestly need and it will invaluably provide students educational opportunities.

The Government of Japan launched GGP in 1996, for the purpose of responding to various development needs engaged in grassroots activities with schools and hospitals as well as local government and NGOs in the RMI. With these GGPs as of March 2023, the Embassy has granted 161 GGPs in the RMI.

For more information, please contact:

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