## Embassy of Japan

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## Press Release

Japan handed over a School Bus to Majuro Seventh-day Adventist Schools System

Date: September 20, 2023 Majuro, Marshall Islands

On Wednesday, September 20, 2023, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, H.E. TANAKA Kazunari officially handed over in a short ceremony for "The Project for Procurement of School Bus for Majuro Seventh-day Adventist Schools System in Majuro Atoll". The grant amounting up to US\$87,375 for the procurement of a school bus was funded through the Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The handover ceremony was attended by Mr. Nelson Sisior, Vice Principal of Majuro Seventh-day Adventist Schools System, the SDA school board chairman, the PTA president, teachers and students from the school.

Majuro SDA has been facing difficulties in providing proper transportation for students residing in distant areas in Majuro. With this project, students will secure a safe and proper transportation between school and their homes, which surely contribute to improving educational environment for these students.

At the ceremony, Ambassador TANAKA expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Vice-Principal and all the School staff, who dedicated their time to this project, and said "Japan has been continuously supporting the education sector in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. 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 the Marshall Islands. The Government of Japan has also placed "the strengthening of education" as one of its priorities in its Development Cooperation Policy for the RMI, and that is why this project was successfully materialized".

Pastor Selvin Intong, the SDA school board chairman, expressed his sincere appreciation to the people and the Government of Japan as well as all those who made an effort to this project. Mr. Darrell Riklon, the PTA president, mentioned in

his remarks that the bus was something they earnestly needed in order to improve transportation system of the school. The Vice Principle stated that the bus will invaluably provide students with better educational opportunities and the school will utilize fully and keep the bus maintained well to last long. Moreover, all the around 300 students participated in the ceremony and gave enthusiastic welcomes with great smiles.

The Government of Japan launched GGP for the Republic of the Marshall Islands in 1996. The purpose of the projects is to respond to various development needs and directly benefit people at a grassroots level. With this GGP, the Embassy has granted 161 GGPs in the RMI to date.

## For more information, please contact:

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