

Embassy of Japan

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Press Release

Handover ceremony of MWSC's Water Reservoir

Date: October 22, 2025
Majuro, Marshall Islands

On Wednesday, October 22, 2025, the handover ceremony for “the Project for Improvement of Water Reservoir at Majuro Atoll” was held under Japan’s Grant Aid of 2,167 million yen, approximately 14.5 million US dollars. The ceremony was attended by H.E. SOMA Hirohisa, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Her Excellency Dr. Hilda C. Heine, President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Honorable Gerald M. Zackios, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Honorable David Paul, Minister of Finance, Banking and Postal Services, Honorable Hilton T. Kendall, Minister of Transportation, Communication and Information Technology, Honorable Wisely Zackhras, Minister of Justice, Immigration and Labor, Honorable Jess Gasper Jr., Minister of Culture and Internal Affairs, Honorable Ota Kisino, Minister of Health and Human Services, Senator Stephen W. Phillip of Majuro Atoll, Senator David Anitok of Ailuk Atoll, Senator David Kramer of Majuro Atoll, traditional leaders, landowners, Mr. Damian Capelle, CEO of the Majuro Water and Sewer Company (MWSC), members of Board of Directors and staff of MWSC, officials of the government of RMI, Mr. Jerry Kramer, CEO of Pacific International Inc. (PII), and Ms. ONO Yukari, Resident Representative of JICA Majuro Office, representatives of Japanese contractors of Yachiyo Engineering Co., Dai Nippon Construction Co., Ltd and members of diplomatic corps, as well as fifth grade students from Long Island Elementary School as part of a social studies field trip.

In the ceremony, the newly completed rainwater reservoir with storage capacity of about 11 million gallons was handed over. In addition to the existing six reservoirs, the total water storage capacity has increased to 47 million gallons, contributing to an enhanced clean and stable water supply. Those reservoirs are essential for the people’s daily lives and livelihood in Majuro and enhances resilience to climate change and natural disasters.

Ambassador SOMA stated that the reservoir reflects Japan’s “Quality Infrastructure Investment” principles to maximize the positive impact of infrastructure for sustainable growth and development, such as lifecycle cost-efficiency and environmental consideration. He also praised the completion of the construction work without any incidents or delays as a commendable achievement resulting from the collaboration of Japanese and Marshallese workers based on mutual understanding, trust, and a shared goal.

Hon. Minister Zackios, on behalf of H.E. President Hilda C. Heine, the Government and the people of the RMI, expressed his heartfelt appreciation to the Government of Japan, JICA and Japanese contractors for their technical expertise, dedication and friendship while highlighting the crucial role played by PII in helping with the construction project. He also commended the MWSC, stating that it has “shown what’s possible when local expertise works hand-in-hand with international partners to deliver real and lasting change.”

For more information, please contact:

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【photos】



Ambassador SOMA delivering remarks



Hon. Minister Zackios delivering remarks



Mr. Capelle, MWSC CEO, delivering remarks



Ambassador SOMA handing over the water pipe valve key to President Heine



Ribbon Cutting



Ambassador SOMA and President Heine with Japanese partners