

**Brief remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka Hanada, Ambassador of Japan to
Timor-Leste at the inauguration ceremony of Construction of
Irrigation System in Ainaro Sub-district, Ainaro District**

13 December, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning,

It is my great pleasure to be here today to inaugurate the irrigation system in Cassa Village. I am very happy to celebrate together with you the memorable and important day. It is one of priority areas of the Government of Japan to contribute the agricultural and rural development in Timor-Leste for their effort to improve the situation.

The Government of Japan, learned through our Embassy in Dili that your community was not able to increase the productivity of rice because it was difficult to control the agricultural water supply to your arable lands effectively. The Government of Japan decided to support financially the Juventude Esperance Ba Futuru (JEF) for their effort to improve the situation.

Now, I am delighted to see this newly constructed irrigation system which could contribute the community to expand rice fields for eight agricultural cooperative groups including 120 farmers in your community.

Today, we inaugurate and hand over this accomplished irrigation system to you. Now, it is your turn to take good care of this system so that you can continuously benefit generations to come and enhance villagers' livelihood for the long term.

I hope this cooperation could be a symbol of close friendship between people of Timor-Leste and Japan for many years.

I would like to express my heartfelt thank you to all, JEF, its staff, the government officials and the people in your community for your concerted efforts to bring this project into reality. I am delighted to be here today to see this beautiful nature and bright future of Cassa Village.

Thank you very much.

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