

**Brief Remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka HANADA,
Ambassador of Japan, at the Signing Ceremony of the “*The
Health Education Promotion Project in the Elementary
Education in the Districts of Ermera and Dili*”**

9 December 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to have you all here today and speak at this signing ceremony of the Grant Contract with NGO SHARE for the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. The Government of Japan will provide approximately US\$300, 000 to SHARE this year for the 2nd phase of “*The Health Education Promotion Project in the Elementary Education in the Districts of Ermera and Dili*”. The project was implemented last year to promote the health education mainly to elementary and junior high school students in Ermera and Dili Districts. Today, we step forward 2nd Phase of the project in order to implement this health promotion more effectively and efficiently.

Since 1999, SHARE has been carrying out various grass-roots projects in Timor-Leste related to health sector in cooperation with the local community. As for the health education promotion project in Ermera District, “SHARE” has implemented the project since 2009 under the same Grant Assistance scheme. I am very pleased to inform you that the Government of Japan has been supporting Japanese NGOs, such as SHARE, for their devoted works to improve health and education sectors in the long-term.

Since last year, SHARE contributed to enhance the capacity of district health trainers in Ermera and Dili. Especially, in Dili, they have been challenging to make Manleuana elementary and junior high schools one of health promoting model school in Dili. Furthermore, SHERE plans to develop health education materials for teachers and students in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

As this opportunity, I would also like to thank again Mr. Naka Nakayama, Country Representative of SHARE, and their staff for welcoming the Japanese Parliamentary delegation which visited Timor-Leste from 10 September to 12

September, 2013. I received reports from Japanese Parliamentary members that they were impressed by the good practice and hospitality of the people involved in this project.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to SHARE, the government officials of Timor-Leste and the people in the community. I would highly appreciate if all of you will take the ownership on this project and support SHARE's activities further more. It is our strong desire to contribute further improvement of health sector, for the welfare of the people in Timor-Leste, especially students and teachers. I look forward to working together hand in hand with the people and the Government of Timor-Leste to deepen our friendship.

Thank you very much.

(End)