

**Brief remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka Hanada, Ambassador of Japan to Timor-Leste at the inauguration ceremony of the Installation of Water Supply System in Baboe Craic Village, Atsabe Sub-district, Ermera District**

16 June, 2014

Good morning,

It is my great pleasure to be here today to celebrate the completion of *“The Project for the Rehabilitation of Water Supply System in Baboe Craic Village, Atsabe Sub-district, Ermera District”*.

Since 2000, the Government of Japan has been together with the people of Timor-Leste, especially in rural areas, under the Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP) scheme. We have launched over 80 projects with this scheme in various areas in all 13 districts in Timor-Leste. I am very glad to extend our cooperation in Baboe Craic Village in Atsabe Sub-district for the benefit of the villagers through this water supply.

With this grant, 8.5 kilometers of water pipeline in total have been installed by Tuna Mutin (ツナ・ムティン) Foundation from the water source area to the community. Now, 25 water taps including 8 rehabilitated ones can provide safe and clean water to the people of Baboi Craic village. The villagers, especially women and children will no longer need to carry heavy water tanks every day. We are very glad this project has a direct impact on the improvement of the livelihood for over 1,400 people in the village. We hope that this water supply system will be used for a long time with proper maintenance by the community, and remembered as a symbol of friendship between our people of Japan and Timor-Leste.

On this occasion, let me express my sincere gratitude especially to H.E. Mr. Fernando Lasama de Araujo, Vice Prime Minister to attend this ceremony and celebrate together.

To conclude, let me express again my gratitude to all of you to be here as witnesses of the completion of the project.

Thank you very much.

(End)