

November 6, 2012

**Remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka Hanada,
Ambassador of Japan to Timor-Leste
on the occasion of the Press Conference for the
Training Program for Young Leaders in Japan in JFY2012
on 7 November, 2012**

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning.

It is my great pleasure that 21 participants from Timor-Leste will take part in the JICA training program for young leaders in Okinawa, Japan for one week. I hope that the participants will get fruitful experience in the program.

The Government of Japan sets "Capacity Development of Government and Public Sector" as one of priority areas in Japan's Country Assistance Policy for Timor-Leste and has been carrying out series of seminars, various training programs and providing scholarships. It is significant that youth, who are the future of the nation, improve their skills to actively work in various field of administration.

In order to accelerate Timor-Leste's development, industrial development is essential. The main purpose of this training program is to specially learn the experience of Okinawa, using the advantage of the region and know-how to promote industrial development. I hope the participants will get result as much as possible by staying there and watching by themselves.

There are some similarities between Okinawa and Timor-Leste. We can see Tais cloth character in traditional cloth of Okinawa. In the past, there was trade relation between Okinawa and Timor-Leste. And there have been interactions between Okinawa and Timor-Leste to strengthen the relation between the two areas.

The Government of Japan highly appreciates to encourage this relation and understand the significance of relation in various fields between Okinawa and Timor-Leste.

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