

**Brief Remarks by Mr. Toshihide Kawasaki on behalf of  
Ambassador of Japan to Timor-Leste, at the Signing  
Ceremony of 3 GGP projects and 1 project under the Grant  
Assistance for Japanese NGO Project**

28 February 2014

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Good morning,

It is my great pleasure to be here today to attend the signing ceremony of the Grant Contracts with 3 national NGOs under Japan's Grant Assistant for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP) and 1 international NGO under the scheme of the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Project.

The GGP and the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects aim to assist NGOs and local public authorities in meeting various development needs in a prompt and flexible manner. These 4 projects are expected to contribute to improve water and sanitation sectors at the grass-roots level. The geographical balance in implementing the projects is carefully considered and they will be implemented in 4 different districts across the country, namely, Manufahi, Dili, Viqueque, and Bobonaro. Japan's total assistance for these four projects adds up to over US\$ 920,000.

The Government of Japan has been supporting the grass-roots projects in Timor-Leste through GGP and the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Project schemes. All four projects are targeted on 3 priority areas set out by Japan's "Country Assistance Policy", namely, "Establishing Foundation for Promoting Economic Activities", "Agriculture and Rural Development", and "Capacity Development of Government and Public Sector" which align with the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) of Timor-Leste. We have already provided 20 water supply projects and adding these 3 projects, which we sign today, marks our 23<sup>rd</sup> projects of GGP. We are also glad to have cooperation with World Vision Japan through the scheme of the

Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO project in this very important area of water and sanitation. It will be their second-year project in Timor-Leste.

I sincerely hope that these 4 projects will contribute to improve water and sanitation conditions of the local communities by implementing these important projects by 3 local and 1 international NGOs. I hope that our strong cooperation and friendship will further be strengthened.

Thank you very much.

(End)