

**Remarks by H.E.Mr. Yoshitaka Hanada,
Ambassador of Japan to Timor-Leste
on the occasion of the Press Conference on Scholarship
Programs by the Government of Japan**

H.E.Mr. Virgilio Smith, Vice Minister of Education for
Primary and Secondary Education,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you very much for coming to the Embassy of Japan
to attend this press conference on scholarship
programs supported by the Government of Japan. Since
2008 the Government of Japan has continuously been
accepting Timorese students and teachers to Japanese
universities under the scholarship programs.

Currently 5 Timorese students are studying in a master
course at several universities in Japan, majoring in
engineering, peace building and international
relations. And one of them successfully finished his
master course and moved on to a doctoral course April
this year. Next year, 2 more Timorese students will
be admitted to Japanese universities as master degree
candidates.

In addition, 2 Timorese school teachers are learning

educational methods and the Japanese language at pedagogical universities under the Teacher Training Scholarship Program of the Japanese Government. This year 3 more Timorese school teachers, who are here with us today, are going to study at Japanese universities.

Furthermore, as part of our defense cooperation with Timor-Leste, 7 F-FDTL cadets and 1 civilian are now studying at the National Defense Academy of Japan. They are studying science and engineering needed for national defense and nation building of Timor-Leste as well as attending military training with many other international students. Next year, 2 more cadets recommended by F-FDTL will join the National Defense Academy and make the Timorese cadets one of the most populous national groups at the Academy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Ministry of Education for having chosen and recommended the 3 excellent school teachers here with us to the Embassy. I would like to further strengthen our cooperation with the Ministry of Education in the scholarship programs and youth exchange programs, with a wider view of contributing to the human resources

and nation building of Timor-Leste.

So, currently 15 Timorese are studying in Japan and 7 more Timorese will enter university by the end of next March. Also, the Government of Japan is going to invite 160 Timorese youths to Japan under youth exchange programs by the end of next March. And, approximately 110 Timorese is likely to participate in the JICA training programs by the end of next March.

Thank you very much for your kind attention, and now I would like to hand over the microphone to Vice Minister Virgilio Smith, who has always accepted my invitations since he was Secretary of State for Culture under the previous fourth constitutional government.

[END]

Agenda

September 25

14:55 Registration

15:00 Introduction by MC

15:01 Short Remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka Hanada,
Japanese Ambassador to Timor-Leste

15:15 Short Remarks by H.E. Mr. Virgilio Smith, Vice
Minister of Education for Primary and Secondary
Education

15:25 Short Remarks by 3 Timorese School Teachers

15:30 Closing of Press Conference by MC