

**Remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka HANADA,  
Ambassador of Japan, at the Inauguration Ceremony of the  
Project for Renovation of Orphanage Dormitory  
in Baucau District  
On Thursday, November 15, 2012**

Your Excellency, Mr. Taur Matan Ruak, President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, (not confirmed)  
Mrs. Isabel da Costa Ferreira, (not confirmed)

[Guests invited by the orphanage sisters](TBD)  
Salesian Sisters of the Venilale Orphanage,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon, how are you today? My name is Yoshitaka Hanada. I am the Japanese Ambassador to Timor-Leste. I'm very glad to be here today. Thank you very much.

Again, it is my great pleasure to be here today to celebrate the completion of "*The Project for Renovation of Orphanage Dormitory in Baucau District*". The Japanese Government has had an opportunity to contribute to this important project since rural development is one of the priority areas of Japanese assistance to Timor-Leste.

Last month, I had the honor to accompany President Taur Matan Ruak when he visited Suai in Cova Lima District. At that time, I directly saw the President and other accompanying Ministers sincerely answering all the questions raised by the local people until there was no more question. I was very impressed by the heart-to-heart interaction between the nation's top leadership and the local population with enthusiasm and high

hopes for a better future.

I saw with my own eyes Excellency's [the President's] sincere attitude toward the people with my own eyes, and I reiterated that I would like to commit myself to Timor-Leste's nation-building both as a representative of the Japanese Government and as an individual person.

I also have visited districts to districts in order to deepen my own understanding of rural development in Timor-Leste. Last month I went to Oesilo and Nitibe in Oecussi District and Cailaco in Bobonaro District. The people in these districts welcomed my visit with their traditional dance. The people who welcomed me were filled with pride, confidence and happiness, not like the people suffering from poverty.

Here in Venilale, the people also seem to my eyes to be filled with dignity and joy, and the children have very beautiful eyes under the sisters' warm and tender care. I would be delighted if this project becomes of some support for the sisters and children alike.

Today, we have 3 professional musicians from Japan. They are here to liven up this Inauguration Ceremony this afternoon.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude and respect for the Salesian Sisters who have been supporting the Timorese children before and since even before the Independence, the government officials concerned, and the community people for all your collective efforts in making this project a reality.

Thank you very much.

[End]