

**Brief Remarks by H.E. Mr. Yoshitaka HANADA,
Ambassador of Japan, at the Signing Ceremony of the “*The
Health Education Promotion Project in the Elementary
Education in the Districts of Ermera and Dili*”**

17th December 2012

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good morning,
Senhoras no Senhores

It is my great pleasure to be here today and address the signing ceremony of the Grant Contracts with NGO SHARE, a Japanese NGO for the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. The Government of Japan will provide approximately US\$351,987 to SHARE in 2012 for “*The Health Education Promotion Project in the Elementary Education in the Districts of Ermera and Dili*”. The project will be implemented for 3 years to promote the health education mainly to elementary and junior high school students in Ermera and Dili Districts.

Since 1999, SHARE has been carrying out various grass-roots projects in Timor-Leste related to health sector and cooperation with the local community. It had implemented the health education promotion project in Ermera District from 2009 to 2012 under the Grant Assistance for Japanese NGO Projects. I am very pleased that the Government of Japan is supporting Japanese NGOs, such as SHARE, which has been earnestly working hard to improve health and education sectors in the long-term.

During last 3 years, SHARE contributed not only to improve health conditions of the students and the community but also to enhance the capacity of district health trainers in Ermera District. Through the project, SHARE will expand its health programs to the students in Dili District and strengthen the cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education to develop health education materials for teachers and students.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thank you to SHARE, the government officials concerned and the people in the community. It is our, the Japanese people's, strong desire and hope that we could contribute to further improvement of health sector, for the welfare of the people in Timor-Leste, especially the students and teachers. We will continue to work together hand in hand, and I look forward to working with the people and the Government of Timor-Leste to further deepen our friendship.

Thank you very much.

(End)