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November 21th, 2016

PRESS RELEASE

Completion of the Project for Renewing Medical Beds in the Surgical Department of St. Joseph's Hospital, Funded by Japan

Today, November 21st,2016, Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to the PA, visited Shaikh Jarrah in East Jerusalem to celebrate the completion of the project funded by the Government of Japan through Japan's **Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).**

The grant of US$89,435 was extended to St. Joseph's Hospital. It was used to provide thirty pieces of new medical beds functioning with the electrical nursing control system, in order to alleviate the burdens on the patients and medical staffs and to better operate the treatment for the patients in St. Joseph's hospital. The direct beneficiaries from the project will be patients in need of surgical operations at the hospital which is expected to be about 3,500 patients annually.

In his speech, Mr. Okubo emphasized Japan's firm commitment of supporting Palestinian people from human security perspective as well as the importance of implementing social and economic development projects needed for Palestinian communities.

Since 1993 the Government of Japan has extended its official development assistance to approximately US$1.7 billion, to the Palestinians. GGP projects have been formulated in collaboration with the Palestinian Authority through Ministry of Finance and Planning since 2010. (END)

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