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PRESS RELEASE

Completion of the Project for Installation of the Arthroscopic Surgical System at the Shepherd's Field Hospital, Funded by Japan

Today, May 08th,2017, Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, visited Beit Sahour in Bethlehem Governorate 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$ 82,260 was extended to Beit Sahour Cooperative Society for Health Welfare. It was used to install the Arthroscopic Surgical System in the Shepherd's Field Hospital. The project aims to assist the patients who are offered appropriately the surgery by arthroscopies without excessive burdens by conducting open surgery or visiting other hospitals outside of the area. The most direct beneficiaries from the project will be patients in need of Arthroscopic surgical system in the hospital, expected to increase from about 60 patients to 160.

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$1.8 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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