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PRESS RELEASE

Grant Signing Ceremony
The Project for Construction of Cisterns for Seven Basic and Secondly Schools in Hebron and Bethlehem
Funded by Japan

Grant Contract for one Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) was signed today by Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and representative of Palestinian Hydrology Group at the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine in Ramallah for a total amount of US$86,000.

Palestinian Hydrology Group will use the fund to construct five rainwater harvesting cisterns for seven elementary and secondary schools in Hebron and Bethlehem. This project aims at providing better water supply, overcoming the crisis of water shortage, and thus achieving an appropriate educational environment for the current students. Once the project is implemented, about 2646 students and teachers in the seven targeted schools will benefit from the stable and sufficient supply of clean water.

Mr. Okubo congratulated Palestinian Hydrology Group and wished them success in their project. He 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 amounting to approximately $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)