Press release

New Wastewater Treatment Facility Has Been Opened To Support Sustainable Economic Growth In Jericho Agro-Industrial Park With Fulfilling Its Responsibilities To Environment Conservation

Jericho, 14 April 2025 - Senior representatives from the Palestinian Ministry of Industry, the Jericho Governorate and the Jericho City, the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine, and UNOPS gathered today for the opening ceremony of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant at the Jericho Agro-Industrial Park (JAIP) - an industrial park established with the support of the Government of Japan to promote sustainable economic development and serve as a hub for the manufacturing industry in Palestine.

The newly inaugurated Wastewater Treatment Plant marks a significant milestone in JAIP's ongoing commitment to sustainable economic development and environmental protection, supported by the Government of Japan.

This facility is expected to become a necessary component for the sustainable production activities of JAIP tenants in the manufacturing sector, helping to prevent the discharge of untreated wastewater into local waterways and to generate alternative water sources for reuse. Equipped with advanced technology, it has the capacity of 400 m^3 per day to accommodate increased flow or expansion in JAIP and was constructed at a cost of USD 1,548,214.

At the ceremony, Ambassador Mr. ARAIKE Katsuhiko, Representative of Japan to Palestine, said, ”The facility aligns with Japan's 'Corridor for Peace and Prosperity' initiative, fostering sustainable development in Palestine. Japan called for further efforts by Palestinian partners to maintain the facility, ensure proper wastewater management, and use it to facilitate the development of manufacturing sector activities.”

Ms. Sophie Nyirabakwiye, Head of Programme of UNOPS Jerusalem Office, which constructed the new plant, said, “UNOPS is committed to delivering infrastructure that

supports environmental sustainability and resilience. This project is aligned with the UNOPS Strategic Plan (2022 -2025), that underlines UNOPS's dedication in providing technical expertise and implementation support for large-scale infrastructure even in the most challenging operational contexts. The new plant is a significant step forward in promoting environmentally responsible business operations in the industrial park. We are proud to partner with the Government of Japan and the Palestinian Authority on this important initiative".

The event concluded with a guided tour of the newly inaugurated Wastewater Treatment Plant, providing attendees with an overview of its operations and benefits. Guests also visited the second phase of JAIP, followed by a commemorative group photograph.

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Notes to the editors:

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About the Government of Japan's assistance to Palestine

Since 1993, Japan has provided approximately USD 2.6 billion in socio-economic assistance to Palestine. www.ps.emb-japan.go.jp

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