Representative Office of Japan to Palestine

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PRESS RELEASE

Japan Signs Two Grant Agreements Contributing to Palestinian Recovery Efforts

Ramallah, Monday 17/02/2025 - Mr. ARAIKE Katsuhiko, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and H.E. Dr. Wael Zakout, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation signed the two grant agreements in support of recovery and reconstruction efforts in Palestine. The signing ceremony was attended by H.E Dr. Sami Hijjawi, Minister of Local Government, H.E. Dr. Majed Abu Ramadan, Minister of Health, and H.E Dr. Ziad Al-Mimi, Chairman of the Palestinian Water Authority.

The two grant agreements includes a new grant assistance of approximately 13.3 million USD (1,850.02 million JPY) for "the Programme for Emergency Recovery", and an additional amount of around 1.6 million USD (227 million JPY) for the existing grant assistance of the Project for the Improvement of Infectious Waste Management" with a new project budget of approximately 9.1 million USD (1,263 million JPY).

The grant assistance of "the Programme for Emergency Recovery" aims to procure the materials and equipment necessary for emergency recovery in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, rebuilding people's lives, and strengthening local services, thus contributing to the recovery and the reconstruction of Palestine. This project will provide the equipment for waste management as well as for the restoration and reconstruction of destroyed water infrastructure, thereby ensuring the safety and security of the people in Palestine. In addition, it will enhance the medical services necessary for Palestinians to rebuild their lives in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

The additional amount allocated to the grant assistance of "Improvement of Infectious Waste Management" aims to build on the positive momentum generated by the ongoing activities, through the enhancement of infectious waste management capacity and contribution to preventing the spread of infection from waste through the procurement of vehicles, sterilization equipment, and heavy machinery necessary for collection, transportation and disposal of infectious waste in the West Bank.

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Minister Dr. Zakout conveyed his heartfelt gratitude to the government and people of Japan for their unwavering support in building the Palestinian state. He also expressed appreciation for the projects they have provided, which are closely aligned with Gaza's relief and recovery initiatives, as well as the Palestinian National Program for Development and Reform.

In this context, Ambassador Mr. ARAIKE said: "Our significant contributions today are vital for supporting activities that are not only essential but also considered a prerequisite for promoting relief, early recovery, and the reconstruction of economic activities and public services of Palestine. These efforts play a critical role in stabilizing the region, fostering long-term recovery, and ensuring that the people of Palestine have the necessary resources and infrastructure to rebuild their lives and communities."

Japan has been providing assistance to key ministries both financially and technically, aiding in their preparations for statehood in alignment with the Palestinian national development plans. With this new assistance, Japan's total support since 1993 has exceeded 2.6 billion USD.