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PRESS RELEASE

Japan Concludes the Arrangement for a new UNESCO Project for Vocational Training in Palestine

On February 10, 2026, Mr. ARAIKE Katsuhiko, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and the Representative of Japan to Palestine, announced a fresh voluntary contribution of the Government of Japan to UNESCO for a Palestinian project, amounting to JPY 141 million (approximately USD 940,000), and concluded the signing of the financial arrangement letter with Ms. Sarah El Attar, UNESCO Head of Office, ad interim.

The signing ceremony enjoyed the attendance of Dr. Amjad Barham, Minister of Education and Higher Education and Dr. Enas Attari, Minister of Labour.

This UNESCO project, designed to provide vocational training through the installation of a temporary learning space in the Gaza Strip and a permanent training unit in the West Bank, aims to realize the Humanitarian–Development–Peace nexus for which Japan has long advocated. Japan believes that development challenges must be coped with even as humanitarian crises are unfolding, so that projects facilitate social stabilization and young generations affected by such crises are given the chance to reintegrate to the society as soon as peacetimes come.

During the signing ceremony, Ambassador Araike expressed his hope that educational and vocational empowerment of young people through this UNESCO project would directly address the fundamental shortages of academic and vocational skill sets, which have unfortunately further exacerbated amid the current humanitarian situation.

This project is part of the cooperation package for Palestine (2026–2027), which the Government of Japan adopted last December, to the scale of JPY 25 billion (USD 167 million) to continue enabling life-saving humanitarian assistance, early recovery, and nation-building efforts in Palestine.

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