

Remarks by H.E. Mr. Ryoichi Horie  
On the Occasion of the Handover Ceremony for  
Emergency Assistance in Response to the Floods Disaster  
On 12th of August 2013, Khartoum, the Republic of the Sudan

Mr. Osama Ali Omer Karoum,  
Director General of the Department of Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance in  
Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC),

Mr. Hiroyuki Mori, Chief Representative of JICA Sudan Office,

My friends of Distinguished Press Officers,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Evening and Assalam Alaikum,

First of all, please allow me to extend my heartfelt condolence and sympathy to those who have suffered from the floods disaster caused by the heavy rains starting from August 1<sup>st</sup>.

It was extremely sad and heart-breaking to know that the floods have devastated so many buildings and houses and deprived many people of their precious lives. Hundreds of thousands of people are still in urgent need of essentials such as foods, water, and tents.

I, as a good friend of Sudanese people, truly believe that my mission is to swiftly respond to a request for help from the Government of Sudan. In this regard, on August 8<sup>th</sup>, the Government of Japan decided to provide emergency assistance from a humanitarian viewpoint for the victims, as well as in light of long-lasting friendly relations between Japan and Sudan.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Japanese emergency relief goods include tents, water purifiers, electric generators, sleeping pads and other items worth 16 million yen, which is equivalent to 166,000 USD. Today, the airplane carrying some of the emergency relief goods

will arrive at the Khartoum International Airport simply for the sake of supporting the victims' daily life in Sudan.

Not only that, JICA is also supporting the residents of 'Maraabiiu Al-Sharif' in Khartoum State by distributing basic foods such as rice, oil, sorghum, wheat and other commodities. Therefore, I would like to extend my appreciation for the extraordinary efforts exerted by JICA staff under the strong leadership of Mr. Hiroyuki Mori, Chief Representative of JICA in Sudan.

This support is just the beginning. As a friend of Sudan, Japan has already made a firm commitment to support development of Sudan, and will continue its efforts to assist the Sudanese people who devote themselves for tackling the various challenges Sudan faces, including this terrible natural disaster.

By the way, when I met President Al-Bashir on the occasion of the Eid greetings at the Guest House on the first day of Eid Al-Fitr, I conveyed to him the details of the Japanese assistance. The President expressed his appreciation for the warm support from the people of Japan.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I close my remarks, I'd like to extend my appreciation once again to Mr. Osama Ali Omer Karoum, Director General of the Department of Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance in HAC and his capable staff for leading such a difficult aid operation. I strongly hope successful distribution of the Japanese relief goods to those who are most in need, and I am looking forward that this assistance represents a token of Japanese and Sudanese people's excellent friendship.

Thank you, Shukran Jazeelan.

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