

(Checked against Delivery)

Remark by H.E. Mr. Ryoichi Horie,  
Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Sudan,  
on the Occasion of the Handover Ceremony of  
the Establishment of the El-Obeid Interstate Vocational Training Center  
Network

At 10.00 a.m. on 28th November, 2012, North Kordofan State, Sudan

H.E. Mr. Mutasim Mirghani Zakiieldin, Governor of North Kordofan State,

H.E. Mr. Hafiz Mohamed Mahmoud, Minister of Finance and Economy of North Kordofan State,

Mr. Mustafa Elradi Ahmad, Secretary General of Supreme Council for Vocational Training and Apprenticeship (SCVTA),

Mr. Taj-Elsir Elghali, Deputy Rapporteur General of Higher Council for Decentralized Governance,

Mr. Makki Mohamed Abdelrahim Alian, Director of Federal Ministry of Finance of National Economy,

Mr. Ghariballa Elhadi, Director of Ministry of Finance of Blue Nile State,

Mr. Mousa Mohamed Hasab-Alla, Director of Ministry of Human Development of South Kordofan State,

Mr. Salah Omer, Director of El-Obeid Vocational Training Center,

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

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

It is my great honor to be here at El-Obeid Vocational Training Center to celebrate the handing over ceremony of the establishment of the El-Obeid Interstate Vocational Training Center Network funded by the Government of Japan as a part of technical cooperation project entitled “Human Resources Development for Darfur and the Tree Protocol Areas”. I also would like to express my sincere appreciation for your generous hospitality and the warm welcome extended to me and JICA colleagues this morning.

Prior to this ceremony started, I had a guided tour around the facilities and equipment including some workshop buildings and dormitories for both male and female trainees and trainers, which were newly installed recently. I hope these new facilities and equipment will provide a better training environment to all trainees and trainers in this vocational training centre.

This is my first visit to El-Obeid and this center. North Kordfan state is located in the middle of Sudan and is an important place both politically and economically. I understand that North Kordfan has flourished history as a relay point connecting between Mecca and the West Africa for Muslims, and now is very famous as the state enriched by commerce, agriculture and livestock. It is my pleasure to visit this great state and this vocational training center funded by Japan today.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Japan's support to Sudan is not limited to Humanitarian Assistance only, but also includes Development Assistance. Japan strongly believes in the empowerment of Sudanese individuals for the realization of stability and development in Sudan. Therefore, the projects that address human resources development, including this

project, has been placed as an important part of the support given to Sudan from Japan. Japan believes that the establishment of this El-Obeid Interstate Vocational Training Center Network certainly contributes to mitigate the tension in Darfur, South Kordfan state and Blue Nile state to realize the peace and stability throughout Sudan.

Especially, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the understanding and cooperation by the North Kordfan state as the host state of this project.

I also commend the sincere efforts for the establishment of the El-Obeid Interstate Vocational Training Center Network given by the all stakeholders, including the North Kordfan state government, the South Kordfan state government, the Blue Nile state government, Higher Council for Decentralized Governance, the Secretary General of Supreme Council for Vocational Training and Apprenticeship (SCVTA), Director of El-Obeid Vocational Training Center, the other related federal and state government officers, and above all, the trainees on the ground and private companies who employ them.

As the ambassador of Japan, I would like to request all stakeholders to ensure good and timely maintenance of the facilities and equipment in this center. I hope this center will become the top training center in Sudan for Sudanese youth who will be specialist to contribute to the industrialization of this county.

To conclude, this project is the evident manifestation of the firm friendship between the people and Government of Japan, and the people and Government of the Sudan. With these few words, I remain hopeful that all trainees will be encouraged to make the best use of the new facilities and achieve excellence.

Thank you very much. Shukran Jazeeran.

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