

(Checked against Delivery)

Remarks by H.E. Mr. Ryoichi Horie,
Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Sudan,
on the Occasion of the Handover Ceremony of
Maternal Facilities and Equipments to Hospitals in Sinnar State
At 11.00 a.m. on 24th January, 2013, Sinnar State, Sudan

H.E. Eng. Ahmed Abass Mohamed Saad, Governor of Sinnar State,

H.E. Dr. Sharaf Eldin Haggo Almahdi, Minister of Health of Sinnar State,

Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Ajabalfiah, Commissioner of Abuhujar Locality,

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 Wada Nail Hospital to attend the handing over ceremony of maternal ward and maternity room to Suki Locality Hospital and Wada Nail Hospital, and medical equipments to Sinnar Teaching Hospital and above mentioned 2 hospitals in Sinnar State, funded by the Government of Japan as a part of technical cooperation project entitled “Frontline Maternal and Child Health Empowerment Project Phase 2”. I also would like to express my sincere appreciation for your generous hospitality and the warm welcome extended to me as well as JICA’s employees this morning.

Since arriving in Sudan last May, as the Japanese Ambassador, I met with President Albashir, Ministers, State Governors and leading figures in the economic

and academic fields. I conveyed to all of them the message that Japan recognizes Sudan as one of the most important countries for realizing peace and stability in Africa and the whole world. Japan has committed itself to support Sudan, not only through multilateral humanitarian assistance but also more actively through bilateral development assistance. I assure you all that Japan is going to continue its assistance for the stability in Sudan as a friend and an equal partner.

I have visited many states in Sudan before, but this is my first visit to this beautiful state. Sinnar State enjoys great history, culture and prideful people. I understand that Sinnar has flourished for its strong trade and gold mining resources and that it still have huge potentials. It is my pleasure to attend the handing over ceremony of maternal facilities and equipments for the hospitals in this great state.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Despite its poor natural resources, Japan has attained today's peace and development after WW II as it focused on the investment in human resources, especially the young generations. I believe that the most valuable assistance is to support healthy delivery and growth of the children for the country's future as these young generations certainly will produce future prosperity of the country.

The maternal health is one of the most serious problems not only in Sudan but also in the World. In this connection, Japan at the General Assembly of the UN in 2010 has committed itself to contribute 5 billion USD for 5 years to the health sector. Also, Japan, at the G8 Summit Meeting in 2010 has announced a commitment to contribute 500 million USD for 5 years especially to the maternal health sector.

As the ambassador of Japan, I would like to request all stakeholders to ensure good and timely maintenance of the facilities and equipments in these hospitals. I hope these hospitals will become good models for the other hospitals in Sudan especially in the maternal health sector.

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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. I would like to renew my appreciation to each of you who gathered today for your heart-felt hospitality, and I sincerely hope that these hospitals will continue serving mothers and their young children and brighter future of Sudan.

Thank you very much. Shukran Jazeelan.

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