

Ambassador Hattori attends the Inauguration Ceremony of the Mycetoma Patients Vocational Training Center (Project for the Mycetoma Patients Supporting Program)

On August 24th, Ambassador Hattori attended the official inauguration ceremony of the Mycetoma Patients Vocational Training Center, which was built as part of the “Project for the Mycetoma Patients Supporting Program”. The Japanese Government granted approximately 8.9 million JPY (81,000 USD) to establish this center, which would contribute to helping the Mycetoma (Mycetoma was added to WHO’s List of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in 2016, making it the 16th disease to be included in the list.) patients play an active role within the Sudanese society through vocational training.

More than 400 participants attended the ceremony, including Professor Intisar Soghayron Al-Zain Soghayron, Minister of Higher Education, Dr. Mariam Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ibrahim Al-Sheikh Abdel-Rahman, Minister of Industry, Professor Fadwa Taha, Vice Chancellor of the University of Khartoum, Professor Awad Saad Hassan, Vice Chancellor of Sudan University of Science and Technology, and Professor Ahmed Al Fahal, director of the Mycetoma Research Center. The ceremony was covered and reported through various media outlets on the same day.

In his speech, Ambassador Hattori stated that: “This program was designed to help Mycetoma patients fend for themselves by giving them an opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills through vocation training in various fields, such as handicrafts, ceramic, agriculture, carpentry and others, which would then help them live a strong life through thick and thin. The significance of the tenacious efforts by all stakeholders in this project, in particular, by Professor Fahal and the Mycetoma Research Center staff, cannot be overestimated.”

Professor Intisar Soghayron Al-Zain Soghayron, Minister of Higher Education, stated: “I would like to express my gratitude to the Japanese people and Government for building the Mycetoma Patients Vocational Training Center. Mycetoma patients are forced to face difficulties in their everyday life, but I believe the inauguration of this vocational training center would be of benefit to and help support the patients.”

Professor Fadwa Taha, Vice Chancellor of the University of Khartoum, explained that: “We (the University of Khartoum) established the Mycetoma Research Center as we thought that a dedicated facility to research and treat the Mycetoma patients is necessary. I would like to laud and commend Professor Fahal’s efforts in contributing to and promoting the research of the Mycetoma disease. I would also like to thank the Japanese people for building this Vocational Training Center, as it greatly contributes to providing the necessary support to Mycetoma patients, who were long forced to suffer from poverty.”

Photos



Ambassador Hattori's speech



(From left) Professor Ahmed Fahal, Director of the Mycetoma Research Center; Ambassador Hattori; Professor Fadwa Taha, Vice Chancellor of the University of Khartoum; and Professor Intissar Soghayron, Minister of Higher Education



Ribbon-cutting by Ambassador Hattori and Professor Intissar Soghayron, Minister of Higher Education



Ribbon-cutting by Ambassador Hattori and Professor Intissar Soghayron, Minister of Higher Education



Tour inside the Vocational Training Center (Dr. Mariam Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi, Minister of Foreign Affairs (first from the right), Mr. Ibrahim Al-Sheikh Abdel-Rahman, Minister of Industry (second from the left), and Ambassador Hattori



Ambassador Hattori and Professor. Ahmed Fahal, Director of the Mycetoma Research Center