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من الشعب الياباني  
From the People of Japan

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### **Japan Contributes USD 31,690 for Improving Sports and Cultural Equipments at Saggana Youth Center in Khartoum**

The signing ceremony of the grant contract of a new project for Saggana Youth Center in Khartoum, funded by the Government of Japan, was held at the Japanese Ambassador's residence on 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2013. "The Project for Improvement of Equipments of Saggana Youth Center" is funded by Japan through the scheme of Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects (GCGP)\*. This grant will be utilized for the purpose of improving sports and cultural equipments at the center by providing sports training materials for cultural classes of Saggana Youth Center. The signing of the grant contract was witnessed by Mr. Al-Tayeb Hassan Badwi, Minister of Youth and Sports, Khartoum State.

At the signing ceremony, Ambassador Horie stressed that interaction at the grass-roots level is essential to build a true friendship between the two countries. He stated that Japan commits itself to exert its utmost efforts to cooperate with Sudan to strengthen further cultural relationship between Sudan and Japan through this project for improvement of equipments of the youth center. Mr. Al-Tayeb Hassan Badwi, Minister of Youth and Sports, Khartoum State and Mr. Gamal Abd Alrahman, Director of Saggana Youth Center expressed their appreciation for this project funded by Japan at the ceremony and they assured proper and timely maintenance of these sports training materials.

It is worth mentioning that Japan will host 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo, thus the Embassy of Japan in Sudan hopes this project will contribute to train Sudanese youth to be future athletes who might participate in the Olympic Games in Tokyo after seven years, and stimulate Sudanese people's interest in sports or cultural activities to cultivate the peaceful coexistence among communities.

\*Japan's **Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects (GCGP)** provides nonrefundable financial assistance to support the implementation of cultural and higher education projects conducted by non-profit organizations (including nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), local authorities, research and higher education institutions, etc.) that are active at the grass-roots level in developing countries. The eligible project area for this scheme is Japanese language education, theater, sports and related cultural projects which will contribute to promotion of culture and higher education or preservation of cultural heritage.

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/cultural/index.html>