



PRESS RELEASE

UNICEF and the Government of Japan delivered supplies to support Family and Child Protection Units (FCPU) all over Sudan

Sudan /Khartoum, 01 September 2013

UNICEF and the Embassy of Japan have handed over supplies such as vehicles and motorcycles to Sudan National Police to improve the outreach capacity of its Family and Child Protection Units (FCPU) to the conflict affected areas and to support provision of unified and comprehensive child-friendly services in Sudan.

The handover ceremony was held inside the Police Officers Club in Khartoum, which was attended by General Hashim Osman Al-Hussein, Director General of Police Forces, General Hamid Manan, Director of the National Coordination Mechanism of the FCPU, H.E. Mr. Ryoichi Horie, Ambassador of Japan in Sudan and Mr. Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Representative in Sudan.

UNICEF's Representative, Mr. Geert Cappelaere said: "The police are often the first point of contact when a child is in trouble – whether he or she is accused of committing an infraction, or is a victim of violence. Sudan's Family and Child Protection Units were designed to provide specialized justice services to children that are mindful of their rights and vulnerabilities. It also provides one-stop services to children, integrating police investigation, prosecution, child judges and social workers."

Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Mr. Ryoichi HORIE said: "Japan regards Sudan as one of the most important countries for realizing peace, development and stability in Africa and the whole world. In order to achieve these goals, maintaining people's stable life without having a fear from violence or sexual abuse is absolutely essential. I hope our assistance will enable the vulnerable people in Sudan to maximize the opportunities and possibilities for their own better future."

UNICEF Sudan has entered into partnership with the police since the year 2006. The main purpose of the partnership is to establish specialized services to address protection needs of children who come into contact with the justice system as victims, offenders and witnesses. Thanks to this partnership, there are now FCPU established in every State in Sudan, reaching tens of thousands of children.

In addition to provision of supplies by donations from the Government of Japan as well as UNICEF regular resources, UNICEF Sudan is also providing technical and financial support to strengthen the role of FCPU, which include: to enhance coordination through national mechanism; training and development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); to establish child help-line services; to raise awareness about the services for increased access to FCPU.

The Government of Japan and UNICEF will continue their support to the Government of Sudan to enhance basic components of justice for children and child protection system in Sudan.

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