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From the People of Japan

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Ambassador of Japan reiterates its commitment to cooperation with Sudan as an equal partner on its National Day

H.E. Mr. Ryoichi Horie, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Sudan hosted the National Day Reception yesterday, 5th December, on the occasion of the Seventy-Ninth Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan at his residence which attended by H.E. Dr. Ahmed Babiker Nahar, Minister of Transport, Road and Bridges, as the Chief Guest, high-rank officials from the Government of Sudan, Diplomatic corps and UN organizations representatives.

H.E. Mr. Ryoichi Horie, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of the Sudan extended his deepest gratitude to the people and Government of Sudan for the invaluable support for the disaster victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake in March last year in his speech. He added that, "Japan regards the Republic of the Sudan as one of the most important countries for achieving peace and stability in Africa and the world, being rich in natural and human resources."

He further stated that "Japan's assistance to Sudan is not limited to humanitarian assistance but goes beyond to reach the provision of the official development assistance which amounts to approximately 1.1 billion US Dollar since the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1956 between the two countries. "

He added that, "as a friend of Sudan, Japan commits itself to devote its utmost efforts to cooperate with Sudan in tackling various social and economic issues that Sudan faces. One of Japan's efforts is "Tokyo International Conference on African Development", so called TICAD which was launched in 1993 by Japan to promote high-level policy dialogue between African leaders and their partners and to mobilize support for African-owned development initiatives. Japan will host the fifth conference of TICAD next June in Yokohama and Sudan's participation will be a great contribution to the conference. "

He concluded his speech with stating that, "Japan is still in the process of the recovery from the devastating disaster which damaged severely the eastern part of Japan on March 11th, 2011. Having a lot of challenges and constraints, both domestically and internationally, the people and Government of Japan will cooperate with the people and Government of Sudan in order to achieve peace and stability in the region and work as an equal partner to strengthen Japan-Sudan bilateral relationship."

(End)