PRESS RELEASE

Handing over Ceremony for hospital equipment procurement project in Saint Lucia

The Handing over Ceremony for the Grant Assistance for the Grass-roots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled "The Project for the Procurement of Medical Equipment for Victoria Hospital" took place at 10:00 a.m. on Friday 6 July 2018, at the Victoria Hospital in Castries, Saint Lucia.

A grant totaling US \$80,517 was received by Victoria Hospital from the Government of Japan for the procurement of equipment which included (8) multi-parameter patient monitors, three (3) infant incubators and two (2) infant resuscitators. This equipment has helped to expand the hospital's capacity for emergency and acute patient-care and enhance the life-support capability of its neonatal unit.

During the ceremony, Senator the Honourable Mary Isaac, Minister of Health and Wellness, delivered remarks and expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan for its contribution to the People of Saint Lucia. Mr. Yoshinori Yakabe, Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Japan, returned remarks, highlighting examples of collaboration between the two countries and the importance of addressing health issues through a cross-border, global approach. Also in attendance were Ms. Brenda Calixte, Executive Director of Victoria Hospital, and other project stakeholders.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and the People of Saint Lucia, with a view to strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding which exist between the two countries.

Video link: <u>https://www.facebook.com/stlucianewsonline/videos/1976246442415215/</u>

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