December 16, 2013

PRESS RELEASE

<u>Japanese Government Funds Cafeteria's Construction and Procurement of</u> <u>Equipment for the Execution of the School Feeding Programme</u>

The signing ceremony for the Grant Assistance for the Grass-roots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled "The Project for Constructing the Cafeteria for the Grand Fond Primary School" took place at 10:00 a.m. on December 11, 2013, at the Grand Fond Primary School, Grand Fond, Dominica. The Grand Fond Primary School received a grant of US\$73,471 from the Government of Japan for the construction of a new cafeteria and necessary equipment for the preparation of meals. Through the project, students who have been unable to access proper meals will benefit from a better diet, which will aid their overall growth and development.

Mr. Hirofumi Murabayashi, Counsellor, Embassy of Japan and Ms. Hatty Leslie, Principal of Grand Fond Primary School, were be in attendance for the ceremony, as well as the Honourable Ivor Stephenson, Parliamentary Representative and Mrs. Melina Fontaine, Chief Education Officer, Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development.

In his speech, Counsellor Murabayashi stated that this project will allow the Grand Fond Primary School to provide nutritionally balanced meals and healthy eating experiences to the students. He also stated that he has no doubt that this project is truly one which meets "basic human needs" and Japan is very pleased that it can assist through the GGP.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and the people of the Commonwealth of Dominica, all with a view to strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding which exist between the two countries.

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