## PRESS RELEASE

## <u>Japanese Government Funds Project for Constructing the Dormitory for Persons</u> with Disabilities

The signing ceremony for the Grant Assistance for the Grass-roots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled "The Project for Constructing the Dormitory for Persons with Disabilities" took place at 11:00 a.m. on March 14, 2014, at the Dominica Associations of Persons with Disabilities, Roseau, Commonwealth of Dominica. Dominica Associations of Persons with Disabilities will receive a grant of up to US\$36,254 from the Government of Japan for the construction of a dormitory, which will be used for the community of the persons with disabilities in the Commonwealth of Dominica.

The ceremony was attended by Mr. Hirofumi Murabayashi, Counsellor of the Embassy of Japan and Mrs. Nathalie Murphy, Executive Director, Dominica Associations of Persons with Disabilities. Representatives from Ministry of Social Services, Community Development & Gender Affairs and Ministry of Foreign Affairs were also in attendance along with the invited guest and medias.

In his speech, Mr. Murabayashi stated that this project allows persons with disabilities to have increased access to DAPD events as they will be able to stay overnight in a dormitory. Furthermore, he 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 the project through the GGP especially since this year marks the Japan-CARICOM Friendship year 2014.

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.

## **END**

Attached are pictures of the ceremony which may be resized and distributed.

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