

September 22, 2017

**Japan's Emergency Assistance to Antigua and Barbuda in Response to
Destruction Caused by Hurricane Irma**

On Saturday 16 September 2017, the Government of Japan decided to provide emergency relief goods to Antigua and Barbuda in response to the request for aid from the Government of Antigua and Barbuda following the serious damage incurred, especially in Barbuda, as a result of the passage of Hurricane Irma on September 5 - 6, 2017. Through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the following equipment was donated to Antigua and Barbuda: 30 tents, 180 sleeping pads, 10 plastic sheets, 10 expedition water filters and 250 foldable tanks.

The handing-over ceremony for the equipment was held on Friday 22 September, 2017 at 3:00pm at the VIP lounge of the V.C. Bird International Airport, Antigua. Mr. Yoshinori Yakabe, Counsellor of the Embassy of Japan to Antigua and Barbuda, as well as Mr. Tetsuhiro Ike, Resident Representative of the St. Lucia JICA Office were in attendance to represent the Government of Japan. Present at the ceremony to represent the Government of Antigua and Barbuda were Ambassador Anthony Liverpool, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Immigration, and Mr. Philmore Mullin, Director of the National Office of Disaster Services. The handing-over documents were signed by Mr. Ike and Ambassador Liverpool.

The Government of Japan is committed to advancing the sustainable development of Antigua and Barbuda through continued cooperation. The Government of Japan greatly values the strong ties between the two countries and hopes that the bonds of mutual understanding and friendship will grow even stronger in the wake of this tragic event.

END

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Mr. Yakabe, Counsellor of the Embassy of Japan and Mr. Mullin, Director of the National Office of Disaster Services signing the delivery agreement



(From left) Ambassador Liverpool, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Immigration, Mr. Yakabe, Counsellor of the Embassy of Japan, Mr. Ike, Resident Representative of the St. Lucia JICA Office, Mr. Mullin, Director of the National Office of Disaster Services.



Mr. Yakabe, Counsellor of the Embassy of Japan and Ambassador Liverpool, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Immigration