

August 26th 2014

PRESS RELEASE

Japanese Government Funds the Procurement of an Ambulance for the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society

The signing ceremony for the Grant Assistance for the Grass-roots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled “The Project for the Procurement of an Ambulance for the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society” took place at 11:00am on August 22nd 2014 at the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Headquarters located at Old Parham Road, St. John’s, Antigua. The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society received a grant of US\$102,909 from the Government of Japan for the procurement of an ambulance.

The ceremony was attended by His Excellency Yoshimasa Tezuka, Ambassador of Japan to Antigua and Barbuda, Mr. Gerald Price, President of the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society, Mr. Philmore Mullen, Director, National Office of Disaster Services and Mr. Fitzmorris Martin, Director General, Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society. His Excellency Dr. Rodney Williams, Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda, and Mrs. Williams, The Honourable Charles Fernandez, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and Senator The Honourable Londel Benjamin, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Social Transformation and Human Resource Development, were also in attendance along with the invited guests and media.

In his speech, Ambassador Tezuka emphasised that the project will contribute to and enhance the first aid services of the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society. He also stated that the recent visit by the Prime Minister of Japan, His Excellency Shinzo Abe, to the Caribbean, ushered an opportunity for Japan and CARICOM to strengthen their bonds of friendship and address areas of common concern.

The Government of Japan is committed to exploring new opportunities between Japan and the Government and people of Antigua and Barbuda with the aim of strengthening relations and encouraging dialogue and mutual understanding between the two countries.

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

END

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