

January 10, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

**Visit by Japanese Ambassador to Saint Lucia:
Handing-Over Ceremony for Japan's Development Assistance to Saint Lucia**

The handing-over ceremony for Japan's development assistance entitled the "Japan's Non-Project Grant Aid for Provision of Industrial Products (2014)" took place at 3:00 p.m. on January 10, 2018, at the Ministry of Economic Development, Housing, Urban Renewal, Transport and Civil Aviation in Castries, Saint Lucia.

The Government of Saint Lucia received a grant of approximately nine hundred thousand US dollars (US\$900,000) from the Government of Japan in order to import Japanese industrial products, procured through tenders, which are necessary to promote economic and social development efforts by the Government of Saint Lucia. Products procured through this grant aid include a safety loader truck, command vehicle, autoclave, gang tool lathe, rainfall measurement system and a refrigerated centrifuge. The grant is intended to positively contribute to the economic and social development of Saint Lucia, as well as the improvement of the capacity of Saint Lucia to adapt to climate change.

The ceremony was attended by His Excellency Mitsuhiro Okada, Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Phillip Dalsou, Permanent Secretary, Department of Economic Development, Transport and Civil Aviation, and Ms. Alicia St. Martin, National Council for Persons with Disabilities. Also present were invited guests.

In his speech, Ambassador Okada acknowledged the close relationship between Saint Lucia and Japan, and expressed the Government of Japan's commitment to increased cooperation, particularly in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation, including natural disaster preparedness, which have been the recent focus of Japanese grant aid assistance in the Caribbean region.

The Government of Japan is committed to advancing the sustainable development of Saint Lucia through continued cooperation.

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For further information, please contact:
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(Left to right) Mr. Philip Dalsou, Ms. Alicia St. Martin, Ambassador Mitsuhiko Okada

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