

August 26th 2014

PRESS RELEASE

**Japanese Government Funds the Procurement of an Ambulance for the Libi Makandra
Emergency Unit**

The handing over ceremony for the Grant Assistance for the Grass-roots Human Security Project (GGP) entitled “The Project for the Procurement of an Ambulance for the Libi Makandra Emergency Unit” took place at 10:30am on August 25th 2014 at the Indira Ghandiweg 432, Libi Makandra Emergency Unit, Wanica, Suriname. The Libi Makandra Emergency Unit received a grant of US\$61,000 from the Government of Japan for the procurement of an ambulance.

The ceremony was attended by His Excellency Yoshimasa Tezuka, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Suriname, and Mr. Harty Stanley Dijksteel, Director, Libi Makandra Emergency Unit. Also, in attendance were Mrs. Marthelise Eersel, Director, Ministry of Health, and Ms. Roline Samsodien, Mayor of Wanica, along with the invited guests and media.

In his speech, Ambassador Tezuka emphasized that the project will help improve and enhance the medical services and emergency response of the Libi Makandra Emergency Unit. He also stated that the recent official visit by 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 the Republic of Suriname 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

For Further Information, please contact:
Economic Cooperation Section
Embassy of Japan in Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: (868) 628-5991/3 ext 234
E-mail:ecocoop@po.mofa.go.jp



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