

June 17, 2014

PRESS RELEASE

Japan's Grant Aid for Provision of Industrial Products to Saint Lucia

The signing ceremony for Japan's Grant Aid for Provision of Industrial Products took place at 11:30 a.m. on June 17, 2014, at the official residence of the Honourable Dr. Kenny Anthony, Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Economic Affairs, Planning and Social Security of Saint Lucia. The Grant is provided in order to support the promotion of the economic and social development of Saint Lucia, and is valued at one hundred million Yen (¥ 100,000,000), approximately one million US Dollars (US\$1,000,000).

The Grant will be utilized for the importation of industrial products, procured through tenders, which are necessary to promote economic and social development efforts by the Government of Saint Lucia. An important aim of the Grant is to address damage caused in Saint Lucia by the trough which occurred in December, 2013. Furthermore, the imported products will basically be manufactured by Japanese companies which suffered significant damage in the historic March 2011 earthquake, thereby contributing to the restoration of the local economy.

His Excellency Yoshimasa Tezuka, Ambassador of Japan to Saint Lucia, and the Honourable Dr. Kenny Anthony, Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Economic Affairs, Planning and Social Security of Saint Lucia, were in attendance to sign the Exchange of Notes.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and the people of Saint Lucia, all with a view to strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding which exist between the two countries, especially in the Japan-CARICOM Friendship year 2014, which marks 20 years since the first Japan-CARICOM Consultation in 1993.

END

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

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