

March 5, 2014

PRESS RELEASE

Signing Ceremony for Japan's Non-Project Grant Aid to the Republic of Guyana

The signing ceremony for Japan's Non-Project Grant Aid to Guyana took place at 9:00 a.m. on March 3, 2014, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guyana. The Non-Project Grant Aid is provided in order to support the promotion of the economic and social development of Guyana, and is valued at approximately three million US Dollars (US\$3,000,000).

The Non-project Grant Aid will be utilized for the importation of products; for example, civil engineering equipment and electric power machinery, which are necessary to promote development efforts by the Government of Guyana.

His Excellency Yoshimasa Tezuka, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Guyana, and the Honorable Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Minister for Foreign Affairs in Guyana, were in attendance to sign the Exchange of Notes.

In his speech, His Excellency Yoshimasa Tezuka stated that "the Government of Japan is keenly interested in the progress of Guyana, and the Caribbean in general, and so remains committed to the development of the region through focus on investment to achieve such advancement". He also spoke about the Japan-CARICOM Friendship year 2014, which marks 20 years since the first Japan-CARICOM consultation in 1993.

The Government of Japan welcomes further opportunities to work with the Government and the people of Guyana, 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.

END

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

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