PRESS RELEASE

<u>Completion Ceremony for the Project for Reconstruction of Bridges in</u> <u>Cul-De-Sac Basin, Saint Lucia</u>

The Completion Ceremony for the Project for Reconstruction of Bridges in Cul-De-Sac Basin, Saint Lucia was held at 9:30 a.m. on December 15, 2022 in Cul-De-Sac Saint Lucia. This reconstruction of climate resilient infrastructure was supported by a grant of 1.53 billion Japanese Yen (approximately 14 million US dollars) from the Government of Japan, and will strengthen vital transport infrastructure at the community and national levels through minimizing the impact of severe weather by preventing bridge closures.

The Government of Japan was represented by Mr. KAMADA Yasuhiko, Chargé d'affaires of the Embassy of Japan who was joined for the event by the Honourable Philip J. Pierre, Prime Minister, the Honourable Dr. Ernest Hilaire, Deputy Prime Minister, the Honourable Stephenson King, Senior Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Ports, Transport, Physical Development and Urban Renewal, the Honourable Joachim Andre Henry, Parliamentary Representative for Castries South East and Minister for Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment and Mr. MIMURA Ichiro, Chief Representative, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Saint Lucia Office, among other representatives of Saint Lucia and JICA Saint Lucia Office.

The reconstructed bridge measures 81 meters and is 3 meters higher than the previous structure and will thus prevent closures of this vital artery in Saint Lucia's road traffic network even in cases of heavy rains and flooding. This project improves the country's infrastructural resilience, as well its socio economic resilience to the impact of weather events.

Government of Japan will continue to offer its support in various areas such as disaster prevention, environment, energy, waste management and fisheries in order to promote resilience and prosperity in Caribbean countries, further enhancing the cooperative and friendly relations between our countries.



Mr. Kamada delivers his remarks





Representatives of Saint Lucia and Japan

For further information, please contact: Economic Cooperation Section Embassy of Japan in Trinidad and Tobago Tel: (868)-628-5991/3 Email: <u>ecocoop@po.mofa.go.jp</u>