

11th March 2026

PRESS RELEASE

Signing Ceremony for Procurement of Medical Equipment in Saint Lucia

On Tuesday, 10th March, the Signing ceremony for the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project(GGP), “The Project for the Provision of Emergency Healthcare Equipment in Castries” was held at the Owen King EU Hospital in the Millenium Heights Medical Complex. The project seeks to address the overcrowding of patients and growing demand for medical resources in the country. The grant will be used to procure 12 medical beds, 2 Automated External Defibrillators(AED) and 2 Electrocardiograms(ECG), which aim to promote patient flow as well as efficient, accurate assessments in the Ambulance and Emergency department and Intensive care unit(ICU).

Ambassador Dr. UMEZAWA Akima attended the ceremony with the presence of Mr. Earnest Nobal, Deputy Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Health, Wellness and Elderly Affairs, as well as Dr. Damian E. Greaves, Chief Executive Officer of the Millennium Heights Medical Complex.

In his remarks, Ambassador UMEZAWA highlighted the importance of Disaster and Emergency Risk Management in island nations, along with the longstanding cooperative efforts between Japan and Saint Lucia spanning more than half a century. He noted the Government of Saint Lucia’s prioritization of the health sector, including the planned expansion of the Owen King EU Hospital. He expressed his hope that the additional beds and equipment provided to critical areas of the hospital will further strengthen its capacity. The Ambassador concluded by reaffirming the Government of Japan’s continued commitment to supporting initiatives that enhance access to healthcare for the people of Saint Lucia, as well as the enduring partnership between the two countries in building resilience in Disaster and Emergency Risk Management.

On behalf of the Millennium Heightts Medical Complex, Dr. Damian E. Greaves, Chief Executive Officer, expressed his appreciation for the grant and initiative, noting that it would contribute to the hospital’s efforts and objectives to achieve bottom-up improvements in patient access to urgent medical care. He highlighted the significant impact of grassroots cooperation, underscoring the direct benefits it would bring to underserved communities and vulnerable populations. In closing, he expressed his hope for continued collaboration with the Government of Japan in advancing the health, wellness and human security in Saint Lucia.

The Government of Japan remains committed to supporting initiatives that enhance access to healthcare in Saint Lucia, with the aim of further strengthening the ties of friendship and mutual understanding between the two countries.



Ambassador UMEZAWA giving his speech



Dr. Greaves giving his speech



Signing of Grant Contract



Signing of Grant Contract



Hospital Staff and Japanese delegates

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