

PRESS RELEASE

Completion Ceremony for “The Project for the Renovation of The Training Facility for Women”

On Wednesday March 25, 2026, His Excellency Dr. UMEZAWA Akima, Ambassador of Japan, attended a completion ceremony for the project “The Project for the Renovation of The Training Facility for Women” at the Foundation National Women’s Movement in Suriname. Approximately, \$167, 196 US dollars was provided by the Government of Japan under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) scheme.

Present at the event were His Excellency Raj R. Jadnanansing, Vice Minister, Ministry of Health, Welfare and Labour, Mr. Juan E. Pawiroredjo, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Ag.) (Cooperation), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Cooperation, Mr. Jayant Anilkumar Padarath, Honorary Consul General for Japan, Ms. Eline Graanoogst, Chair of the Foundation National Women’s Movement, and various stakeholders.

Ambassador Umezawa began his speech by expressing his deep appreciation for being able to attend the event as he was moved by the impactful speech delivered by the Ms. Eline Graanoogst. He stated that the following day is the national reception which commemorates fifty (50) years of diplomatic relations between Suriname and Japan and, this project is a good example of the importance that Japan attaches to cooperation with the people of Suriname. Furthermore, he added that it demonstrates the strong bond between countries and how they can develop hand in hand. Ambassador Umezawa conveyed his profound pleasure in seeing the completion of this facility which aims at improving the lives and livelihoods of women.

His Excellency Raj R. Jadnanansing stated that with the completion of this facility, he can make assurances that with current projects a focal point can be established at the facility to assess what trainings are needed as a lot can be done for the people of the surrounding communities. This facility has the potential to provide women with all the opportunities needed, in the form of training, for a better a life. He expressed his sincere gratitude to the Government of Japan for their support and contribution towards this project.

Ms. Graanoogst, Chair of the Foundation National Women’s Movement began her speech by conveying her sincere gratitude towards the people of Japan because without their assistance it might not have been possible for the foundation’s dream to be materialized today. She explained that the objective for setting up this building was to support women in their strive for social, economic and emotional independence and growth and, throughout years many women have benefitted from the training programs that the foundation developed and conducted at here.

The Government of Japan is committed to its support in public welfare initiatives and welcomes further opportunities to work in other areas of interest with the Government and

People of Suriname, with a view to strengthening the bonds of mutual understanding which exist between the two countries.



Ambassador Umezawa and His Excellency Raj R. Jadnanansing, Vice Minister, Ministry of Health, Welfare and Labour, Mr. Juan E. Pawiroredjo, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Ag.) (Cooperation) together with specially invited guests listen to the opening remarks



His Excellency Raj R. Jadnanansing, Vice Minister, Ministry of Health, Welfare and Labour giving his speech



Ambassador Umezawa and His Excellency Raj R. Jadnanansing, Vice Minister, Ministry of Health, Welfare and Labour perform the unveiling of the commemorative plaque installed at the Foundation National Women's Facility.