

**SPEECH BY HE MR. KAZUYA OGAWA, AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING CEREMONY OF TWO GRANTS ASSISTANCE FOR GRASSROOTS HUMAN SECURITY PROJECT (GGP) ON 4th March 2014**

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my great pleasure to sign today these two grant contracts under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) for a total amount up to approximately \$179,000 with Apollinaire Karamaga, Secretary General, Rwanda Red Cross Society and Jean Baptiste Habiyaremye, Nile Basin Discourse Forum.

Firstly, Rwanda Red Cross Society project consists of Construction of the Facility of Water Supply in Migina/Nzovi villages in Nyanza district. Through this project of \$78,937, two water tanks and 6 public fountains with kiosks will be established. This enables 2500 people in targeted communities to get access to safe and clean water, together with operational training of the water facility for the beneficiaries. Secondary, Nile Basin Discourse Forum plans to construct a primary school in Murehe cell in Rwamagana district. This project of \$99,692 contains 6 classrooms, a library, playgrounds together with water tanks in order for eligible children to access quality of basic education.

Since the framework of GGP was agreed between the

Rwanda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and the Embassy of Japan on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1996, the government of Japan has supported grass roots activities over 5 million dollars especially in the areas of Education, Water and Sanitation, Agricultures. These 3 areas selected are based on our Division of Labours which agreed with the Government of Rwanda to meet people's basic human needs and bring various benefits to the local community.

In this respect, the grant is expected to help the Rwandan society to achieve Millennium Development Goals, namely reduction of child mortality and achievement of universal primary education.

At the same time, I am delighted that these projects reflect the Japanese Government's strong commitment to the Rwandan achievement of Vision 2020.

With that in remind, I wish to express my sincere hope that, the friendly and cordial relations already existing between our two countries will be further strengthened through this scheme of GGP.

Lastly, I congratulate both organizations to have been selected as our grant aid recipients and we look forward to seeing the project completion.

Thank you very much for your attention. **Murakoze.**