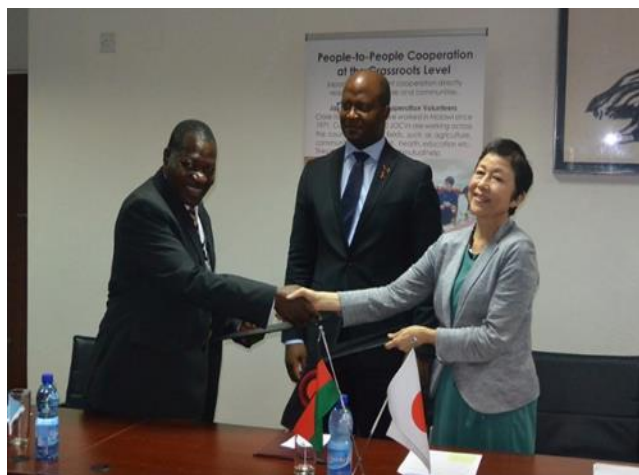


Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects

Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for the Project for Procurement of an Autoclave and Anesthesia Apparatus for Likuni Mission Hospital in Lilongwe District 7 March, 2018



Ambassador Kae Yanagisawa (Right), Hon. Atupele Muluzi, M.P. Minister of Health and Population Services (Middle) and Mr. Wilfred Dodoli, Board Chairperson, Likuni Mission Hospital (Left)

On Wednesday, 7th March 2018, Kae Yanagisawa, Ambassador of Japan to Malawi, signed a grant contract with Mr. Wilfred Dodoli, Board Chairperson of the Likuni Mission Hospital, for the Project for Procurement of an Autoclave and Anesthesia Apparatus for Likuni Mission Hospital in Lilongwe District. The ceremony was graced and witnessed by Honorable Atupele Muluzi, M.P., Minister of Health and Population Services.

Government of Malawi has been making efforts in fighting against HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis and other diseases, with support of development partners including the Global Fund in which Japan has been one of the major contributors, however, the country's health sector is still faced with several challenges such as inadequate infrastructure and lack of medical equipment. Similar to the national challenges, the Likuni Mission Hospital is also faced with lack of medical equipment, which affects the delivery of healthcare services at the hospital. Although they have two theatres, they normally use one theatre since they only have one anesthesia apparatus. On the other hand, the existing autoclave is as old as 40-50 years and despite this, the hospital staff have been maintaining the autoclave in a relatively good condition. Considering the challenges, the Government of Japan decided to provide a grant amounting to **USD40, 000** to assist the Likuni Mission Hospital to procure an autoclave and anesthesia apparatus under the Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects.

Speaking during the ceremony, Ambassador Yanagisawa expressed her belief that through the success of the project, doctors at the Likuni Mission Hospital will be able to provide quality and timely healthcare to all patients in a better environment. She also appealed to the Likuni Mission Hospital to deliver the project within the proposed timeframe and procure appropriate equipment, so that more patients will benefit from this project.