

Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects

GRANT CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE PROJECT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PAEDIATRIC WARD AT MULI BWANJI COMMUNITY HOSPITAL IN MANGOCHI 6TH NOVEMBER 2020



Ambassador Iwakiri and Sr. Josephine Busiku, Administrator, Muli Bwanji Community Hospital, signing the grant contract with the witness of Dr. Dan Namalika, Chief of Health Services of Ministry of Health and Population Services.



(Left) Ambassador Iwakiri giving a speech.



(Right) Dr. Dan Namalika, Chief of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Population Services, giving a speech.

On Friday, 6th November 2020, His Excellency Satoshi IWAKIRI, Ambassador of Japan to Malawi and Sr Josephine Busiku, Administrator, Muli Bwanji Community Hospital, signed a grant contract amounting to **US\$90,907 (about K70,000,000)** for the “**Project for Construction of a Paediatric Ward at Muli Bwanji Community Hospital in Mangochi District**” provided under the Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects. The Chief Director of Health Services in the Ministry of Health, Dr. Dan Namalika, graced the occasion.

Accessibility of basic paediatric emergency care in Malawi is a challenge particularly for people living in the rural areas in Mangochi District. This geographic obstacle makes it difficult for children and the general population to access healthcare services. Speaking during the ceremony, Ambassador IWAKIRI said that Children are important for the bright future of a nation and that the provision of better infrastructure and quality paediatric healthcare service, is, therefore, very important for the growth of a nation. He noted that the new paediatric ward to be constructed will serve to eliminate such barriers to utilization of healthcare services for the children around the hospital and beyond.

Ambassador IWAKIRI further urged the hospital management to prudently use the grant resources and ensure construction of quality and strong structures for the longevity of the Ward and safety of the children. He further appealed to the Government both at central and at local levels, the Diocese of Mangochi as well as the Christian Health Association of Malawi to support Muli Bwanji Community Hospital in this endeavour.

The Embassy of Japan is currently supporting a number of project in health, education, women and youth empowerment under the Grant Assistance for grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). The GGP is a Japanese Government grant aid scheme introduced in 1989 in order to respond to the diverse development needs in less developed countries. The aim of is to provide financial assistance to non-profit development organisation for implementing projects at grassroots level. The Project for the construction of a paediatric ward at Mulibwanji community Hospital is one of such projects that are selected from across the country.