

SPEECH DELIVERED BY H. E. MR.YONEZO FUKUDA, AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN TO ZIMBABWE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF GRANT CONTRACT FOR “THE PROJECT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE IN HARARE”

NOVEMBER 20, 2013

SALUTATIONS,

A very warm welcome to Oasis Zimbabwe staff to our Embassy for this occasion to formalise a grant of approximately 81 thousand dollars. The grant will be used for the project to construct a vocational training centre in Hatfield, Harare.

This assistance is in recognition of the importance of social protection and human resource development of orphans, especially girls and young women. Because of financial constraints of families as well the current economic situation of the country, these young people often drop out from schools. The lack of education hinders them from securing formal employment and exposes them to sexual exploitation. These youth needs opportunities to learn and acquire social and vocational skills, so that they can live independent lives.

Japan places emphasis on human security, including social protection, which is critical for equity and national development. We have been working with organisations such as Childline, Musasa Project and Simukai Child Protection Programme. We will continue partnering with local and international NGOs in promoting social protection and livelihoods.

We are pleased to start collaborating with Oasis Zimbabwe on this project. We look forward to visiting the centre and meeting the trainees.

THANK YOU. TATENDA.