SPEECH TO DE DELIVERED BY H.E. MR YONEZO FUKUDA, AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN TO ZIMBABWE, ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF GRANT CONTRACTS WITH ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION FOR "THE PROJECT FOR THE SUPPLY OF RECYCLED AMBULANCES TO HARARE BULAWAYO AND MUTARE"

MARCH 12, 2014

SALUTATIONS,

It was a great pleasure to sign documents formalising our assistance to St. John Ambulance Association Zimbabwe with a grant of \$65,743 for the importation of four recycled ambulances into Zimbabwe from Japan. Two are to be deployed in Harare and one each for Bulawayo and Mutare.

Given the current shortages of ambulances in the country and the increased demand for such emergency services, due to increased road traffic accidents and increased incidences of maternal mortality, we considered your application favourably. We sincerely hope this will help you provide ambulance services in a timely manner and reduce unnecessary loss of life due to preventable reasons.

Please ensure to get the ambulances serviced regularly. Financial management, including collection of user fees, is also an essential aspect to provide the service in a sustainable manner.

We wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

THANK YOU.