

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**14 June, 2013**

### **JAPANESE AMBASSADOR HANDSOVER SPORTS COURTS TO DANHIKO PROJECT**

Today, the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2013 the Japanese Ambassador to Zimbabwe, H.E. Mr. Yonezo Fukuda handed over three All Weather Tennis, Volleyball and Netball Courts all combined in one, three Spectator Benches and a provision of twenty-one Tennis Wheelchairs to Danhiko Project.

The project was made possible through the Japan's Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Project that seeks to promote sports in institutions of higher learning.

Amai Grace Mugabe, the Patron of Danhiko Project was the Guest of Honour and Deputy Minister of Education, Sport, Art and Culture, Honourable Lazarus Dokora also graced the occasion.

Speaking at the handover ceremony, Ambassador Fukuda said he was gratified that both students with disabilities and able bodied who participated in tennis, volleyball or netball as part of their physical education activity, as their rehabilitation or as a profession will easily access these facilities contained at the same center.

Danhiko holds annual Paralympic Games and tennis category players would always be ferried to sporting centers far from Danhiko Project. This is going to be a thing of the past.

Ambassador said it was his hope and wish that this project will mentor world class tennis, volleyball and netball players. Some of whom will compete in the 2020 Olympic Games that will, hopefully to be held in Tokyo 2020 Candidate City.

He also commended Mr. Hiroshi Komatsu, a member of the Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) for tirelessly planning and completing the application procedure.