

Press Release

13 August 2020

Japan Provides Medical Equipment for the Kingdom of Lesotho's Fight against Covid-19

It is the Embassy of Japan is pleased to announce its Economic and Social Development Programme Grant to the Kingdom of Lesotho, to strengthen their health and medical system and contribute to the economic and social development of the country.

COVID-19 has posed a grave threat to human life with an enormous impact on the society and the economy throughout the world and Lesotho is no exception. To contain the virus, the Government of Lesotho has been implementing the lockdown since 30 March 2020 including the closure of borders except for essential goods and services. However, Lesotho is experiencing sharp increase in the number of confirmed cases and economic slowdown.

While commending the strong leadership demonstrated by the Government of Lesotho in addressing this unprecedented challenge, the Government of Japan, in response to the request from the Government of Lesotho, has decided to implement a new Grant Aid project for the purpose of provision of medical equipment such as 4WD Ambulance, Oxygen Concentrator and Blood Gas Analyser to help Lesotho maintain and further improve preparedness for the pandemic in its health services by providing appropriate medical equipment.

“Our focus lies on strengthening Japan - Lesotho cooperation in fighting the pandemic and exploring the establishment of a global health partnership. The gesture reflects Japan's solidarity with the Basotho Nation as they seek to meet basic needs and mitigate the effects of COVID-19. We firmly stand together during this trying time,” said Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Kingdom of Lesotho, H.E. Mr. MARUYAMA Norio.

The contribution comes at a time when the Kingdom of Lesotho has over 700 confirmed Covid-19 cases.

Signing Date: Thursday, 13 August 2020

Scheme: Economic and Social Development Programme

Main equipment: 4WD Ambulance, Oxygen Concentrator, Blood Gas Analyser

Grant Amount: JPY 100,000,000 (equivalent to about LSL 16,500,000)

* There will be no physical signing ceremony due to COVID-19 restrictions.

For further information please contact the Embassy of Japan's public relations representative, Ms. Innocent Mohamme, at innocentmohamme@gmail.com.

We thank you for your continued support.

-End of Statement-