



### **March 10, 2014, Kabul City, AFGHANISTAN**

A signing ceremony for “The Project for Supporting the Improvement of Airport Maintenance Capacity” and “Non-Project Grant Aid” was held today at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Exchange of Note was took place between H.E. Mr. Hiroshi Takahashi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and H.E. Mr. Ershad Ahmadi, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

The first project, which is worth approximately USD 9.7 million, is provision of essential equipment and machineries such as grader machine, asphalt mixer machine, snow removal vehicle and so forth to both Kabul International Airport and Bamyan Domestic Airport. In Afghanistan, aircraft is the essential means of transportation and its needs has increased year by year.



Ambassador Takahashi stated that “Under Airfield Transition, enhancing the maintenance capacity of Airport is pressing issue for Afghanistan. Through the provision of the essential equipment and machinery, we expect that the airport will be managed by Afghanistan properly; the safety and efficiency of the airport will be increased.

The Government of Japan has decided the project in response to the progress that has been made under TMAF (Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework) established at Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan held in 2012. As one of the TMAF commitments achieved by the Government of Afghanistan, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) was recently established whose function is to maintain the airports.

The second Non-Project Grant Aid, amounting approximately USD 28 million is to help Afghan’ s economic and fiscal difficulty through provision of funds for purchasing necessary materials. This assistance is

counted as “on-budget” assistance which is part of the TMAF commitment of International Community.

It is worth mentioning that since 2001, the Japanese government has provided approximately US\$ 5 billion in assistance to Afghanistan.

For more information, please contact:

Mr. Ahmad Zubair, Senior Coordinator, Embassy of Japan

Mr. Ahmad Zubair, Senior Coordinator, Embassy of Japan

[economic1@kb.mofa.go.jp](mailto:economic1@kb.mofa.go.jp)

Mobile: 0700 22 44 28



Ambassador Takahashi and Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmadi are signing the notes.

