



Completion of Two Projects at Kabul International Airport Funded by Japanese Grant Assistance



25 December, 2013 | **Kabul City, AFGHANISTAN** – A hand-over ceremony was held today at the Kabul International Airport, marking the completion of two separate projects, namely "The Project for Rehabilitation of Airfield Pavements at Kabul International Airport" and "The Project for Rehabilitation and Expansion of Aircraft Parking Aprons at Kabul International Airport."

The occasion was attended by H.E.Mr.Hiroshi Takahashi, Ambassador of Japan to Afghanistan, H.E.Mr. Daud Ali Najafi, Minister of Transportation and Civil Aviation, Captain Hamid Zahir, Director General of Civil Aviation Authority and Dr. Muhammad Yaqub Rassuli, President of Kabul International Airport.

The total amount of costs for these two projects exceeds US\$ 50million. Through these projects, the capacity of the aircraft parking space has been increased by 20% and the taxiways have also been refurbished. In addition to this, the lighting system including the installation of signage, lighting and markings for all pavement surfaces have newly been introduced.

To date, the Government of Japan has donated over US\$ 90 million to the Kabul International Airport, including the construction of its International Terminal and the installation of solar panels. Ambassador Takahashi stated that "the Kabul International Airport is the aerial gateway to Afghanistan from the world and our funding for this airport is a symbol of the



friendship expressed by the people of Japan towards the people of Afghanistan. Japan will continue its support to the Kabul International Airport to improve its facilities and function. We hope that the Government of Afghanistan would address various challenges it faces during the transitional period."

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

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