



**Handing-over Ceremony of  
THE PROJECT FOR  
THE REPAIR AND UPGRADE OF THE TAKITUMU SCHOOL  
and  
THE PROCUREMENT OF A FISHING VESSEL TO IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY AND  
FISHING SKILLS FOR PUKAPUKA ISLANDERS IN RAROTONGA  
under  
JAPAN'S GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR GRASS-ROOTS HUMAN SECURITY PROJECT  
Rarotonga**

Two (2) handing-over ceremonies were held as follows:

- On 26 September 2017, Repairs and Upgrades of Takitumu School was handed over to the Takitumu School Committee: The project for the repair and upgrade of the Takitumu school received a grant of up to thirty five thousand seven hundred and fifty (NZ\$ 35,750) New Zealand dollars in fiscal year 2016 under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). This project saw new floor tiles laid in five (5) classrooms, the library, and two (2) other rooms to be used as a new classroom and preschool. The project aims to improve the school's learning environment through the refurbished floors that are safe, clean and comfortable for the children to sit on to do many activities. This is the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) GGP project in the Cook Islands since GGP was introduced in the Cook Islands in 2011.
- On 27 September 2017, A fishing vessel including fishing gear together with a freezer, solar system, ice machine and water tank were handed over to the Pue Fishing Association (PFA): The project for the Procurement of a Fishing Vessel to Improve Food Security and Fishing Skills for Pukapuka Islanders in Rarotonga received a grant of up to one hundred twelve thousand and fifty-four (NZ\$ 112,054) New Zealand dollars in fiscal year 2016 under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). This project saw the procurement of a fishing vessel including fishing gear along with the installation of a freezer, solar system, ice machine and water tank at the headquarters of the PFA. Another significant objective of the project is upskilling sustainable fishing methods and technology through developing and transferring fishing skills to young and women fishers, by providing practical training and hands on fishing experience at sea. This is the fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) GGP project in the Cook Islands since GGP was introduced in the Cook Islands in 2011.

Ambassador Toshihisa Takata extended his congratulations on the completion of these projects and expressed his appreciation to both the Takitumu School Committee and the Pue Fishing Association for assisting the well-being of their local people and community and for all the hard and tireless work of all those involved in the projects' successful completion. Through their ongoing due care and maintenance, Ambassador Takata believed that they will create additional symbols of the friendship and cooperation between Japan and the Cook Islands

(End)





