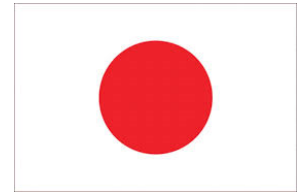


Press Release

Embassy of Japan in Cook Islands



Handover Ceremony for

THE PROJECT FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF TRANSPORT VEHICLE FOR THE ELDERLY IN RAROTONGA ISLAND

under

JAPAN'S GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR GRASS-ROOTS HUMAN SECURITY PROJECTS in Rarotonga, The Cook Islands

On 27 March 2025, in Rarotonga, Te Are Pa Metua hosted a handover ceremony to mark the successful completion of the "The Project for the Procurement of Transport Vehicle for the Elderly in Rarotonga Island," funded through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). The Government of Japan allocated NZ\$199,855 to this initiative, which involved providing two new vehicles, one of which are wheelchair accessible.

Before the project, Te Are Pa Metua was in much need of a transport vehicle, as their own vehicle was very old and constantly breaking down. The newly supplied 14-seater and 6-seater welfare vehicles are expected to significantly enhance the elderly's accessibility to Te Are Pa Metua, thereby increasing the overall well-being of Rarotonga's residents.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Noriyasu ADACHI, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in New Zealand, congratulated Te Are Pa Metua on the successful completion of the project and wished that the provided vehicles will be well-maintained and serve the community for many years, contributing to the safety of both elderlies and residents in Rarotonga. The ceremony was attended by representatives from Te Are Pa Metua, as well as its members. The attendees expressed their great appreciation to the Government and people of Japan.

This project is the 35th GGP project supported by Japan since the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Cook Islands in 2011. It is hoped that this assistance will create additional symbols of friendship and cooperation between the Governments and people of Japan and the Cook Islands.



(End)

For Further Information:
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