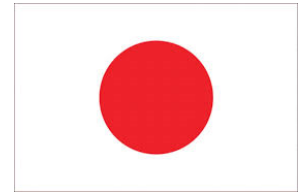


Press Release

Embassy of Japan in Cook Islands



Handover Ceremony for

THE PROJECT FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF SCHOOL BUS FOR PAPAAROA ADVENTIST SCHOOL IN RAROTONGA ISLAND

under

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

On 6 August 2025 (Cook Islands time), in Rarotonga, Papaaroa Adventist School Committee hosted a handover ceremony to mark the successful completion of "The Project for the Procurement of School Bus for Papaaroa Adventist School in Rarotonga Island," funded through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). The Government of Japan allocated NZ\$105,000 to this initiative.

Before the project, Papaaroa Adventist School was in much need of a school bus, as their school bus was very old and often broke down, posing a risk to student safety and affecting school attendance. It also lacked sufficient seating capacity to accommodate the number of students. The newly supplied 30-seater vehicle is expected to ensure the safe and punctual transportation of students to and from the school.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Makoto OSAWA, Ambassador of Japan to the Cook Islands, congratulated Papaaroa Adventist School Committee on the successful completion of the project and wished that the provided school bus would be well-maintained and utilised by the school for many years, contributing to the safe transportation of students in Rarotonga. The ceremony was attended by representatives from Papaaroa Adventist School Committee and the students who have been waiting for the bus for a long time. The attendees expressed their great appreciation to the Government and people of Japan.

This project is the 36th GGP project supported by Japan since the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Cook Islands in 2011. It is hoped that this assistance will become another symbol of friendship and cooperation between the Governments and people of Japan and the Cook Islands.



(End)

For Further Information:
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