

## **Japan funded National Workshop on Worker's Health in Jamaica**

On Thursday, April 27, 2017, Ambassador Masanori Nakano, attended the launch of the two-day National Workshop on Worker's Health in Jamaica arising out of the Japan/World Health Organisation (WHO) Collaboration on Non-Communicable Disease (NCDs) Prevention and Control.

The amount of 120,000 United States Dollars was provided to *the Secretariat of the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs* based in Geneva, Switzerland by the Government of Japan's Ministry of Health, to strengthen the capacity for Non-communicable Disease (NCD) prevention and control in the three pilot countries of Jamaica, Sri Lanka and Ethiopia. As such, Jamaica was allotted Forty Thousand USD (\$40,000.00 USD) or approximately Five Million (\$5,000,000) Jamaican Dollars to carry out project related activities and most importantly, to host the two-day workshop with key stakeholders from civil society, employers, as well as occupational safety specialists to have fruitful dialogue and find workable strategies in order to identify effective interventions for NCD's.

Ambassador Nakano told the audience that a small investment in health and change of individuals own lifestyle can make a difference in preventing major losses or further losses in human lives and societies. He also noted that Japan is pro-actively taking the lead to become a model for other countries by putting in place policies and establishing goals to address the common cause for concern that the rate of NCD's is likely to increase.

Other notable attendees were, Dr. Julietta Rodriguez Guzman, Dr. Noreen Jack from PAHO/WHO Washington DC and Jamaica, Mrs. Helene Davis Whyte, Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions, as well as Mr. Howard Lynch, Dr. Beverley Wright and Dr. Tamu Davidson Saddler from the Ministry of Health Jamaica.



(left) Remarks from Ambassador Masanori Nakano



(right) Remarks read on behalf of The Honourable Shahine Robinson, Minister of Labour and Social Security by Mrs. Collette Riden Roberts, Permanent Secretary



(left) Greetings from Dr. Noreen Jack – PAHO/WHO Country Representative Jamaica



(right) Some workshop participants



(L-R) An observer from Barbados, Sir Trevor Hassel, President Healthy Caribbean Coalition, Dr. Noreen Jack and Ambassador Masanori Nakano engaged in discuss



(left) Display material on Health & Fitness including “Jamaica Moves 2017 Get Fit Campaign”



(right) National Workplace Wellness Programme: Healthy Workers: A sound Investment Display