

**The Hand-Over Ceremony of
"The Provision Ambulances for Improved Emergency Response in Jamaica"
Project at King's House under
the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects**

On January 20th, 2016, H.E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Ambassador of Japan to Jamaica, attended the Hand-Over Ceremony of the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects, "The Project for the Provision Ambulances for Improved Emergency Response in Jamaica" at the King's House in Kingston. He handed over 6 ambulances to Mr. Earl Jarrett, Chair of the St. John Ambulance Association of Jamaica.

The St. John Ambulance Association of Jamaica has 5 ambulances, 3 of which are out of order due to deterioration. Although there were 1468 emergency cases needing ambulance service in 2013, they could only respond to 597 cases. By adding 6 ambulances, donated by the SPJD (the Society of Promotion of Japanese Diplomacy), they will be able to improve their emergency response in order to save lives in St. Andrew and St. Mary.

At the Hand-Over Ceremony, approximately 150 people, including H.E. the Most Honourable Sir. Patrick Allen, Mr. Earl Jarrett, Chair of National Council for Jamaica of The Order of St. John, Council members, members of Ministry of Health, and the members of the Jamaica Fire Brigade, were present. Sir. Allen, other guests and participants expressed their appreciation to the support from the Government of Japan, Embassy of Japan in Jamaica and the SPJD, and promised to take good care of the ambulances and utilize them as best as they can for the people in St. Andrew and St. Mary. Ambassador Nakano expressed his pleasure of assisting the region, noting that everyone should be protected and empowered to achieve inclusive growth and sustainable development under the concept of human security, which is one of the main focuses of Japan's Official Development Assistance.

Ambassador Nakano noted the friendship between Japan and Jamaica had become stronger by the visit of H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan in September, last year. H.E. Mr. Abe was the first Japanese Prime Minister to set foot in Jamaica. Ambassador Nakano also expressed his wish to further promote this friendship through this project.



Speech by Hon. Allen



Handing over the key



Photo session