



## ***Representative Office of Japan to the Palestinian Authority***

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### **Press Release**

#### **Ministry of Health Celebrates the Inauguration Ceremony of Third Floor of Dr. Thabet Thabet Hospital in Tulkarem in Partnership with Government of Japan, UNICEF & UNDP**

Ramallah: on Monday August 17, 2015, Ministry of Health celebrated the Inauguration Ceremony of Third Floor of Dr. Thabet Thabet Hospital in Tulkarem in Partnership with Government of Japan, UNICEF & UNDP.

H.E Prime Minister Dr. Rami Al Hamdallah, H.E. Dr. Jawad Awad, Minister of Health, attended the ceremony with H.E. Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to the PA and Governor of Tulkarem, Mr. Issam Abu Baker, in addition to both the Special Representative of UNICEF, Ms. June Kunugi. and the special Representatives of UNDP, Mr. Roberto Valent.

“Japan is committed to supporting and improving the standards of living for the Palestinian people. Improving the public health will enhance the people’s well-being, thus contribute to the social and economic development that is the integral part of the nation building process.” said Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to the Palestinian Authority.

Mr. Ambassador added “We are pleased to contribute to enhance the quality of medical systems and to help Palestinian people have better access to the health care services. Health sector is one of the key sectors in Japan’s assistance to Palestinian people. I believe improving the standards of living for Palestinian people contributes to the social and economic development that is the essential part of the nation building process.”

The Japanese government has extended this project that provides health services for the people of the Northern area of West Bank under the Official Development Assistance program that is implemented through UNDP for the year 2013 – 2014, to develop and improve the neonate health care services throughout Palestine. While the beneficiaries of this project around 17,000 children and 12,000 women.



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The government of Japan has supported Tulkarem hospital through two channels; one is equipping and furnishing the new building of Tulkarem hospital in partnership with UNICEF and UNDP for the year 2013 -2014. Another is providing medical equipment including high-tech medical devices through Ministry of Health, which has been completed in this year. The Government of Japan has extended its official development assistance since 1993 for more than USD 1.6 billion to the Palestinian people, ranging from economic and social development to humanitarian Assistance.

Under this project, the medical services in the government hospitals were improved and developed through providing the neonate intensive health care units with much developed equipment such as incubators, portable incubators, neonate ventilators, complete central monitoring system, phototherapy units, blood gas analyzer, fetal heart monitors and other medical equipment that were installed in the government hospitals. Taking into consideration that this equipment is hi-tech and it is very important to have them in the government hospitals which also made it possible for the ministry to drastically cut down the expenses.  
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