



EMBASSY OF JAPAN

27 October 2017

MEDIA RELEASE

Members of the press are welcome to attend the Handover Ceremony which will take place at the Auas Primary School in Katutura East Constituency, Khomas Region at 09:00 on 30 October 2017.

HANDOVER OF A NEW SCHOOL BLOCK FUNDED BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO THE AUAS PRIMARY SCHOOL IN KATUTURA EAST CONSTITUENCY, KHOMAS REGION

On the 30th of October 2017, a ceremony handing over a new school block which was funded by the Government of Japan through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) will be held at the Auas Primary School in Katutura East Constituency, Khomas region. **H.E Mr. Hideyuki Sakamoto, Ambassador of Japan, will officiate the event and handover the facility to Hon. Ms. Katrina Hanse-Himarwa, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture.**

The Auas Primary School was established in 1969. It currently accommodates 1,252 learners from Pre-Primary to Grade 7 with 48 teachers. The school is located in one of the disadvantaged settlements with the high poverty rate in Windhoek where the population is rapidly growing. In order to accommodate the dramatically increasing number of learners, the school is forced to follow platoon (double session) system, sacrificing quality education. It is with this background that the Government of Japan extended grant amounting to NAD 829,049.00. The grant was utilised to build a new school block consisting of four permanent classrooms and one store room. The new block will be used by 144 learners in Grade 2 who are currently learning in the afternoon session. Japan's assistance has contributed for the school to phase out the platoon system, and to provide a conducive educational environment for the learners.

Education is one of the priority areas for the Government of Japan in its extension of GGP to Namibia. The programme aims at bringing about direct and immediate impact on the well-being of disadvantaged communities at a grass-roots level by supporting relatively small development projects in areas of local needs such as education, agriculture, health, to be implemented by Non-Profit Organisations and local authorities. The Government of Japan has been implementing the GGP in Namibia since 1997. To date, 49 projects have been supported, totally amounting to approximately NAD 34 million, and Auas primary school is the 31st school that the Government of Japan supported through GGP.

For further information and registration, contact Ms Kaoru Yokotani, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Namibia. Email: kaoru.yokotani@mofa.go.jp, Tel: 061-426-700/ FAX: 061-426-749.

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