

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*August, 13, 2019*

### **“Further Contribution to Preparedness for times of need”** **Japan’s NPGA Handover to NEMO**

The Government of Japan handed over emergency relief goods to Tonga’s National Emergency Management Office, NEMO, on Tuesday, 13 August 2019 through the Non-Project Grant Aid, NPGA. H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Tonga handed over the equipment to Hon. Poasi Tei, Minister for Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEIDECC).

The handover ceremony was also attended by Reverend Dr. ‘Aho, Mr. Mafua Maka, Director of NEMO, Mr.Sione Moala, CEO of the Ministry of Tourism and other Government officials at the NEMO Warehouse Vaololoa.

H.E Mr. Ishii emphasized that the key objective of Japan’s NPGA is to strengthen capability and resilience against natural disasters. Furthermore, it represents Tonga and Japan’s cordial relations and support of each other “which will make a significant contribution to Tonga’s preparedness to withstand the devastations of a disaster.”

The third batch to NEMO has a total value of \$1.24 million pa’anga, which is equivalent to \$59.1 million yen and contains large-size tents, chainsaws, engine generators, balloon lamps with generators and mobile toilets.

Hon. Poasi Tei affirmed that the NEMO is now in a much better position to support other emergency responders such as; Tonga Fire and Emergency Services, Tonga Police, His Majesty’s Armed Forces, the Ministry of Health and any other emergency service in need of support. He also mentioned that this aid would also assist them in their efforts to address some of the priority actions highlighted in the Sendai framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

Japan’s NPGA was introduced as a form of commodity aid to promote economic and social development of recipient countries. This programme will also support Tonga’s effort to meet its Strategic Development Framework and contribute to the betterment of the welfare of the people of the Kingdom of Tonga.

END.

Attached; photos

Photos;



H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii, Hon. Poasi Tei, Minister for MEIDECC, and Rev. Dr 'Ahio, President of Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, in front of the structure parts of the large size tents donated through Japan's NPGA on Tuesday, 13 August 2019.



A part of the sample display of the third batch of Japan's NPGA disaster reduction equipment donated to Tonga's NEMO.

*For further enquires please contact: The Embassy of Japan in Tonga,  
Level 5, National Reserve Bank of Tonga Building / Telephone: 22-221 / Fax 27-025*



Inspection of goods by H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii accompanied by distinguished guests.



The Keynote Address by H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii at the handover ceremony.



H.E Mr. Tetsuya Ishii, Hon. Poasi Tei, Minister for MEIDECC, and Rev. Dr 'Achio at the ceremony



The NPGA handover of disaster reduction equipment for Tonga's NEMO, 13 August 2019.