

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

**Human Security towards a Resilient BARMM**  
*Japan's Approach in Promoting WPS Focusing on Health*

29<sup>th</sup> October 2024 | 1:20 - 2:20 p.m. | Meeting Room 12

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- Esteemed VIPs;
- My dear colleagues in the National government and Bangsamoro Transition Authority;
- Friends of the international development partners;

Good afternoon.

Magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

こんにちは。

Today, we got together here, not only for dialogues, but for a powerful global call to renew our action-oriented commitment to sustainable, resilient, and inclusive development and peace, emphasizing the significance of “Human Security”, or the very solid policy of “No-One-Left-Behind.”

Today, we also welcomed the new two noteworthy projects in BARMM, one by the Embassy of Japan and one by JICA, which are full reflections of what I said now.

In addition to the excellent project under the partnership of EoJ and UNFPA, JICA is very pleased to announce one more new project, which perfectly aligns with the initiative of gender mainstreaming or WPS.

JICA is starting “The Project Strengthening Services in Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition Improvement in the BARMM”, under the wise leadership of the Honorable BTA Health Minister Dr. Kadil Sinolinding Jr., and in the close partnership with local counterparts including local communities.

These two projects ensure the improvement of “Human Security” status, amid the current compound crises, that threaten the progress of multifaceted gender mainstreaming efforts.

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Incidentally, allow me to reiterate that JICA’s strong initiative to promote gender mainstreaming is not limited only to the BARMM, but also extends throughout the Philippines and the world.

- ① For example, in our railway projects, we have been realizing gender-centered sustainable, resilient, and inclusive society, by means of providing special coaches for vulnerable people including women. We are unwaveringly encouraging to create more jobs for women, too.
- ② Also, JICA previously supported the construction of the TESDA Women’s Center, which is the first national institution to achieve women’s empowerment through technical and vocational education and training.
- ③ Plus, JICA powerfully encourages many women participants for JICA’s various training programs. Currently, the ratio of women’s participation from the Philippines in JICA’s training courses is relatively high, which was 50% last year.
- ④ Moreover, JICA will shortly issue the second Gender Bonds, worth 30-40 Billion Japanese Yen, this November. The bonds will be utilized to dedicatedly accelerate the efforts on gender mainstreaming worldwide.

In a nutshell, JICA vigorously promotes gender mainstreaming in across all our projects, programs, and activities.

These utmost efforts reflect our guiding-philosophy for more and more (1) women’s participation or empowerment, (2) diversity, and (3) opportunities.

Especially, it cannot be overemphasized that the role of women is crucial, as indispensable agents of peace and security, in conflict-affected areas. Furthermore, we move forward tirelessly, duly recognizing that vulnerable or marginalized people should not only be participants in the peace process, but also be drivers, promoters and decision-makers in the peace process.

I am truly delighted to be able to share the same views as above with all of you today.

Kasama niyo kami.

Sama-sama tayó.

Para sa Bagong Pilipinas, and the new world!

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Maraming salamat po at mabuhay.

ありがとうございました。