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RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS SIGNING BETWEEN NDoH & JICA FOR PROJECT ON IMPROVING BASIC MEDICAL SERVICES FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL IN HEALTH FACILITIES

The Japan international Cooperation Agency (JICA) today signed a Record of Discussions (R/D) for JICAs new Technical cooperation (TC) project with the National Department of Health (NDoH).JICA has stepped in with a 1.8 million USD TC project to procure and deliver medical equipment such as sterilizers, laundry machines and dryers for target Provincial Hospitals throughout PNG. The project will commence after the signing of the R/D and will end in March 2022.

This is a TC project by the Government of Japan through JICA, purposely granted to combat the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases in PNG. Infection control and prevention is paramount in every hospital setting. Effective infectious prevention methods like sterilizing and laundry are essential for the daily operation of a hospital. In order to cut down cost and reuse medical equipment, infection control equipment's play a major role.

According to information presented to JICA by NDOH, about 12 provincial hospitals will be receiving sterilizers and four provincial hospitals will be fortunate enough to receive laundry and dryer machines. JICA will be providing a total of 15 sterilizing machines, 9 laundry machines and 9 dryers delivered throughout the duration of this project. JICA is committed to assist NDoH and help place more emphasis on infectious disease control and prevention in hospitals in the country. This TC project will also involve training materials on infection control and basic medical services as well.





Photos courtesy of JICA PNG Office, July 2021

JICA trusts that this medical equipment and upgraded skills of the basic medical service will help improve and increase the hospitals capacity in infectious disease control and acknowledges the PNG government's cooperation over the years and look forward to similar collaborations in the future.

The End.

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