

# CASSIOPEIA NKANI

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CASSIOPEIA-BRINGING 5 STAR QUALITY HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE 5 TARGET HOSPITALS FOR UHC

## JICA - THE PROJECT FOR STRENGTHENING MANAGEMENT CAPACITY OF GENERAL HOSPITALS IN LUSAKA DISTRICT



The Permanent Secretary-Donor Coordination Ministry of Health Dr. George Sinyangwe chairing the Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) Meeting held on 6th June, 2023 at Taj Pamodzi, Lusaka. (left-Right: Project Chief Advisor Dr. Norizuki Masataro, Lusaka Provincial Health Director Dr. Bushimbwa Tambatamba, Permanent Secretary-Donor Coordination Ministry of Health Dr. George Sinyangwe, Chief Representative, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Zambia Office Mr. Norihito Yonebayashi, and the Second Secretary Economic Cooperation Affairs/ Section, EoJ Mr. Takashi Mori)

<p><b>SECOND JOINT COORDINATION COMMITTEE (JCC) MEETING ON THE CONFIRMED PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT AND DISCUSSION ON DECENTRALIZATION</b></p>	<p><b>TRIAGE TRAINING IN THE THREE FIRST LEVEL HOSPITALS MATERO, CHIPATA AND CHAWAMA</b></p>	<p><b>TIYENDE PAMODZI AS A FAREWELL MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF ZAMBIA FROM MR. TAKASHI HARAFORMER PROJECT COORDINATOR</b></p>	<p><b>PHOTO FOCUS</b></p>	
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## SECOND JOINT COORDINATION COMMITTEE (JCC) MEETING ON THE CONFIRMED PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT AND DISCUSSION ON DECENTRALIZATION

The Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) is the governing body and official decision making body of the project that meets at least once a year with additional meetings as needed.



The Delegation Group Photo

**O**n June 6, 2023, JICA Cassiopeia project held its annual Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting at Taj Pamodzi Hotel, Lusaka. The JCC was chaired by the Health Permanent Secretary-Donor Coordination Dr. George Sinyangwe and in attendance were JICA Zambia Chief Representative Mr. Norihito Yonebayashi, Embassy of Japan Representative the Second Secretary Economic Cooperation Affairs Mr. Takashi Mori, Lusaka Provincial Health Director (LPHD) Dr. Bushimbwa Tambatamba, Ministry of Health staff, Lusaka Provincial Health Office (LPHO) senior staff, the District Health Office (DHO), the five Medical Superintendents from the target hospital, JICA Zambia staff, and the Project team

In the opening remarks, Dr. Bushimbwa Tambatamba highlighted the composition of JCC describing it as the governing and official decision-making body of the project chaired by the project Director and consists of the Ministry of Health (MoH), Lusaka provincial Health office (LPHO), Lusaka District Health Office (LDHO), the Five first Level Hospitals, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The Chief Representative Mr. Yonebayashi also highlighted the purpose of the committee which is to look at discussions on the way forward as well as the challenges faced by the project and how to resolve them. He added that JICA and MoH have a long history of cooperation that can be seen through various technical cooperation projects and donor care coordination projects provided by JICA through Zambia health sector. It was against this background that the project was launched in 2021 to support the management of the five first level hospitals in Lusaka District. He also added that the project has significantly contributed to offer quality health care services to the communities by providing technical support

and has improved the conditions among the five hospitals by supporting engagement, information sharing and capacity building on administration and health matters among others. He assured the delegates that JICA remains committed to support and collaborate with both LPHO and MoH to ensure the successful implementation of the project.

Meanwhile, the Health Permanent Secretary-Donor Coordination Dr. George Sinyangwe thanked JICA for the solid contribution to the health sector and expressed gratitude for the continued support rendered to the health facilities, LDHO, LPHO and MoH. He proceeded to outline the discussions of the meeting highlighting the implications of the decentralization process on the project, report on activities and amendments of the PDM for project improvement. He informed the delegates that as they were aware, the government of the republic of Zambia has embarked on the decentralization policy with a vision of having a citizen driven local governance within the unitary state for sustainable development. He added that this will ensure that services offered by the facilities to the communities are efficient and will further empower communities to participate and hold their representatives accountable for service delivery.

The meeting proceeded with a project overview from the Project Chief Advisor Dr. Norizuki Masataro followed by presentations from LPHO senior staff on the project activities and outputs. Other items brought to the table were issues to do with the decentralization process.

The meeting was then concluded by the Permanent Secretary-Donor Coordination who thanked everyone and JICA through the project for their continued support to the country through many other areas. Lastly he said that Zambia will continue to cooperate with Japan in this project and other projects.



Dr. Bushimbwa Tambatamba Lusaka Provincial Health Director giving her opening remarks at the JCC meeting



Mr. Norihito Yonebayashi JICA Zambia Chief Representative giving his remarks at the JCC meeting



Officials from LPHO and JICA project experts at the JCC meeting held on June 6, 2023



The Project Coordinator Mr. Takashi Hara receiving a cake and flowers for his good service of work.



## TRIAGE TRAINING IN THE THREE FIRST LEVEL HOSPITALS MATERO, CHIPATA AND CHAWAMA

**T**riage is important for emergency medicine because it refers to prioritizing medical care to patients according to the severity of their condition by distinguishing patients who need rapid assessment, treatment and management from patients who can wait safely in limited resources. Therefore, a good triage system should help emergency departments and Out Patient Department (OPD) to organize and manage the flow of patients and the waiting time.

In a joint exchange/mentorship program between the first level hospitals, and University Teaching Hospital (UTH) with support from JICA Cassiopeia project held triage trainings facilitated by medical practitioners from UTH-Adult hospital in three hospitals namely; Matero, Chipata and Chawama from 31st May to 1st June 2023.

The triage trainings were

organized to strengthen patient triage and emergency response in general. It was highlighted during the trainings that triage takes place as soon as possible after arrival of the patient, and should never be delayed for registration so as to save the life of the patient.

Triage should be in an emergency unit in an accessible area which is a private space, if possible, with a balanced aim of speed and thoroughness, and assigned a color to guide clinical behavior for early warning scores for example, Red for immediate assessment upon arrival, Yellow for urgent assessment and Green for patients who need assessment but may wait until a clinical space becomes available in the treatment area.

During the training the participants were taken through a practical assessment exercise to assess patients with different conditions, to help the participants achieve optimal exposure to the triage system and flow of patients which would

increase their understanding, build their team spirit and improve their work when triaging patients.

After the training, participants were willing to start mentoring, and orient other staff and to work on their limitations in order to achieve their goal of reducing patient waiting time when triaging.



*Dr. Zimba Yapoka showing Matero 1st level hospital Nurses and Clinicians how to triage patients in the emergency department during the triage training.*

### Interview with Dr. Kaputo Ntalasha from University Teaching Hospital UTH



*Dr. Kaputo Ntalasha From University Teaching Hospital (UTH) during the triage training at Chipata 1st level hospital*

In an interview with Dr. Kaputo one of the triage training facilitators from the accidents

and emergency department unit at UTH said that she was impressed to find that Chipata 1st level hospital has a system that they have been using to triage patients and manage them in the emergency department which was not there at first but was eventually implemented and is currently being improved.

Despite the challenges being faced by the hospital such as limited space where emergency cases can be managed, lack of equipment and lack of mentorship on how to use a particular equipment, they are trying their best to manage cases in best way possible as they can.

She further added that there is need to train staff on how to use certain equipment so that they can effectively

manage patients when they come to the hospital or as they are being prepared for transfer. Her hope is that other rooms in the hospital can be repurposed into emergency department that will effectively cater for the people as they come in as well as the reception of patients from the facility to other referral centers.

She was pleased that the participants received the training and are willing to carry out the intend work to better manage the patients.

Lastly, Chipata 1st level hospital Medical Superintendent Dr. Mataa Moses Mataa, said that the Hospital is carrying out a project to expand the emergency room space to increase the available space for the emergency room.

## TIYENDE PAMODZI AS A FAREWELL MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF ZAMBIA FROM MR. TAKASHI HARA-FORMER PROJECT COORDINATOR

When I was working for Matero level one hospital about five years ago, I had a chance to make a presentation at JICA office and explain to them how I wanted the five target hospitals to be more like a treasure box for the communities around them where they can access quality health services.

Through the Cassiopeia project my wish came true as this has always been my passion and that is why I was happy to work under the Cassiopeia project especially in the area of hospital management where I contributed in planning what can be incorporated in hospital management activities. I am happy that this project will continue to help the people through the hospitals. My hope is that the hospitals may take full ownership of the implemented project activities.

Lastly, my favorite and encouraging words from Zambia is 'Tiyende Pamodzi' a slogan by the first Republican President of Zambia Dr. Kenneth Kaunda. These words encourage working together to achieve a goal by uniting different people as it is in the case of the project the Japanese people working together with the Zambian people to provide the quality of care to the Zambian people through the spirit of Tiyende Pamodzi.



Mr. Takashi Hara

# PHOTO FOCUS



Ms. Nyanga assisting Chawama 1st level hospital Environmentalists with placing of instructional waste segregation signages in the hospital



Dr. Norizuki Masataro encouraging Chawama 1st level hospital triage training participants on the important of triaging patients



Dr. Norizuki Masataro giving the Cassiopeia project overview at the Biomedical Engineering Association of Zambia Symposium



Mr. Kohei Shiota giving a presentation on Medical Equipment Management and regular reporting at the Biomedical Engineering Association of Zambia Symposium



Mr. Kohei Shiota explaining the medicine bulletin list at Chipata 1st level hospital management technical committee meeting



Mr. Kohei Shiota at Chilenje 1st level hospital pharmacy discussing for the re-arrangement of the pharmacy



**Editor and Newsletter design:** Ms. Ellen Mutinta Chipilipili  
**Editor:** Mr. Kei Ogata  
**Editor-in-Chief:** Dr. Masataro Norizuki

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

JICA - The Project for Strengthening Management Capacity of the First Level Hospitals in Lusaka District  
Plot No.11743A, Brentwood Lane, Longacres.  
P.o. Box 30027, Lusaka, 10101, ZAMBIA

<https://www.jica.go.jp/project/english/zambia/023/index.html>

Email: [cassiopeia.project.zm@gmail.com](mailto:cassiopeia.project.zm@gmail.com)

*JICA Cassiopeia project welcomes the new Project Coordinator Mr. Kei Ogata*