

PRESS RELEASE

March 9, 2016

**Farewell Reception by Consul-General of Japan and Mrs. Akira Ouchi
held in Karachi**

On March 9, 2016, the Consul-General of Japan in Karachi, Mr. Akira Ouchi, and Mrs. Junko Ouchi hosted a reception to bid farewell with gratitude at the Official Residence. The reception was attended by over 100 persons related to Japan, including Chairman of Pakistan Japan Business Forum (PJBF) and President of Pakistan Japan Cultural Association, Sindh (PJCA) and the Consul-Generals of other countries and his friends.

At the outset, Mr. Akira Ouchi requested the participants to join him in offering one minute silent prayer for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake on the occasion of the 5th Anniversary of the incident which occurred on March 11, 2011. He expressed his sincere appreciation to the world and Pakistan in particular for the warm support and assistance extended to Japan after the disaster and reported that the steady progress is being made in post-earthquake reconstruction of Tohoku region and Japan is revitalized.

Mr. Akira Ouchi explained in his speech about various economic and cultural activities that have taken place during his tenure of 3 years and 4 months. He signed 10 grant contracts for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) and delivered 21 lectures and hosted more than 60 events and made official visits to local cities about 15 times, including Hyderabad 5 times, Quetta 3 times and Sukkur twice. He felt friendly feeling and strong interest towards Japan from the people of Pakistan in every place he visited.

On this occasion, he conferred the Certificates of Commendations to PJBF and PJCA for the great achievements made by the two organizations in the past years for the promotion of friendly relationship between Japan and Pakistan.

In concluding his remarks, Mr. Akira Ouchi, Consul-General of Japan wished that the cordial and friendly relationship between Japan and Pakistan will be further strengthened in the coming years.

(end)