

Speech by Mr. Akira Ouchi, Consul General of Japan at  
The Inauguration Ceremony of the Humanitarian Response Facility in  
Hyderabad, Sindh  
Wednesday 15 April 2015

His Excellency Syed Ali Shah, Chief Minister, Government of Sindh,

It is my great pleasure to be here today to take part in the inauguration ceremony of the Humanitarian Response Facility in Hyderabad.

**(Introduction)**

This facility forms a part of the network of Humanitarian Response Facilities that WFP is developing in cooperation with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs) in eight locations. US\$ 8.2 million provided by Japan is the largest funding source of this project. We congratulate all those engaged in the project for completion of this facility in Hyderabad, following those in Muzaffargarh and Quetta. We sincerely hope that the remaining facilities in other locations will be constructed and put into use promptly.

**(Japan's contribution in disaster management)**

Both Pakistan and Japan are disaster-prone countries. Having suffered from many disasters in the past, Japan has acquired advanced technologies and expertise for disaster prevention and management. We are willing to share our experiences with other countries such as Pakistan. Disaster management, therefore, has been one of the main areas of focus in Japan's development assistance for Pakistan. Japan helped the NDMA to prepare the National Disaster Management Plan. And in accordance with this plan, we have been extending various grant aid assistances such as the installation of a flood forecasting system called the "IFAS" (Integrated Flood

Analysis System), for the catchment of the Indus River and the establishment of weather forecasting center in Islamabad which will cover the northern part of country. I am pleased to add that the preparation of another project for renewing the meteorological radar in Karachi, which will cover the southern part of the country, is in the final stage.

### **(Importance of the project)**

The Humanitarian Response Facility which we inaugurate today is yet another example of our cooperation to enhance the country's preparedness for possible future disasters.

The experience of repetitive disasters such as floods and droughts in Sindh in recent years has taught us the importance of stockpiling supplies for emergency responses. The warehouse in this disaster-prone region could play a significant role in addressing possible future disasters.

We sincerely hope that the federal, provincial and local governments will closely work together to make effective use of this facility.

### **(Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction)**

I would like to add that Japan has been actively working to promote disaster management in the global forum.

The Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction was held last month in Sendai City, Japan. In the conference, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 was adopted to enhance all stakeholders' efforts in order to make the world safer from the risk of disasters.

Taking the opportunity of hosting the conference in Sendai, which was affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, we also shared Japan's experience and lessons learned after the disaster.

Over the four years after the earthquake and tsunami, Japan has made every effort to recover from the disaster and reconstruction has been

well under way. I would like to renew my appreciation for the heart-warming encouragement and support from all over the world including Pakistan and the WFP.

**(Conclusion)**

Let me reiterate that the Government of Japan will continue to cooperate with Pakistan in the areas of disaster prevention and management.

I would like to conclude my remarks by congratulating all partners again for completing the construction of this facility.

Thank you very much.