

Dear guests, colleagues and partners,

It is my pleasure to welcome you today at the solemn ceremony dedicated to the final stage of the Grant Project for enhancing the healthcare system of Turkmenistan through the provision of medical equipment, which was initiated by the Government of Japan and implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan.

A large-scale work has been carried out since the Signing Ceremony of the Exchange of Notes in March last year to launch the Project. In particular, within the project modern medical equipment that meets all international quality standards has been purchased and delivered in the territory of Turkmenistan, including mobile X-ray machines, ICU ventilators, modern ultrasound machines and so on. By now most of the supplied equipment has already been installed in relevant hospitals and medical centers in all regions of the country, including Ashgabat. In addition to that, professional training has also been successfully conducted for the relevant medical personnel in order to ensure the further efficient operation of the installed equipment.

In this regard, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those involved in the project for their efforts and tireless support during its implementation, including the UN mission in Turkmenistan, UNOPS Office both in Austria and Turkmenistan, as well as the Government of Turkmenistan.

I am deeply convinced that the implementation of such projects in the healthcare field is crucial and timely, given the realities of our time and the challenges the world faces, including the global pandemic of COVID-19. In this regard, the Embassy of Japan, on behalf of the Government and people of Japan, is also pleased to contribute to the modernization of Turkmenistan's national healthcare system in accordance with international health standards and norms.

I am also pleased to note that it is a great honor for me to witness the implementation of such an important project on the eve of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Turkmenistan, which will be celebrated on the 22nd of April this year. In addition, I would like to highlight that this Project will be another demonstration of friendship and solidarity between the Japanese and Turkmen peoples.

In conclusion, let me once again thank all of the stakeholders for their contribution to the achievement of this project and wish everyone good health, prosperity and success in their work!

Thank you for your attention!

