Japan dispatches emergency relief to Dadaab: handover ceremony

The emergency supplies from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), for victims of the drought crisis affecting the Horn of Africa, touched down in Nairobi on 16 August. This emergency supplies were sent in response to the request from the Kenyan Government. All good are to be distributed through the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

A handover ceremony was held at the UNHCR warehouse, near Nairobi International Airport, on 17 August.

It was attended by Mr. Joseph Keter, Senior Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of State for Immigration and Registration, Mr. Javier Lopez-Cifuentes, Senior Administration/Financial Officer of UNHCR Branch office for Kenya, His Excellency Mr. Toshihisa Takada, Japanese Ambassador to the Republic of Kenya, and Mr. Masaki Kato, the Chief Representative of JICA Kenya office.

During the ceremony, Mr. Keter expressed his gratitude for Japan’s relief efforts to the world biggest refugee camp in Dadaab. Mr. Lopez stated that JICA’s relief was timely, and that the goods were to be transported to Dadaab and distributed at the camp immediately.

In response, H.E. Mr. Takada expressed his gratitude to the Kenyan government for its efforts in receiving a large number of Somali refugees into the country. He also emphasised the importance of continuous support to the refugees, as well as to host communities. In addition, Mr. Kato, in his speech, expressed his appreciation to the Kenyan government and UNHCR, saying that he expected the relief goods to contribute to the improvement of the situation in the camp.

This was the very first coordinated emergency relief operation between JICA and UNHCR. JICA will conduct the monitoring activities on the distribution and usage of goods.
Mr. Keter gives his speech

Japanese Ambassador Takada gives his speech

A Jerry can is handed over from Mr. Kato, JICA to Mr. Lopez, UNHCR

Emergency relief goods (Tents) arrive in the UNHCR warehouse