



From  
the People of Japan



# Joint Press Release

*For Immediate Release*

## Japan supports constitutional review process in South Sudan

**1 November 2013 – Juba:** The Government of Japan has approved US \$300,000 (29,475,000 Japanese Yen) to UNDP to support the constitutional review process in the Republic of South Sudan. The funding, provided through the Japan-UNDP Partnership Fund, will support the activities of South Sudan's National Constitutional Review Commission in holding public consultations, especially with women, supporting media strategies to galvanise public participation, as well as the printing and distribution of the Transitional Constitution 2011.

Japan's Parliamentary Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nobuo Kishi, conveyed the funding decision to the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) in the Republic of South Sudan, Ms. Hilde F. Johnson, during her recent visit to Japan. Ms. Johnson expressed her appreciation for the assistance and acknowledged that the contribution is meaningful to support the elaboration of the constitution in a new country and provides a signal to other partner countries.

Mr. Takeshi Akamatsu, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of South Sudan, said, "South Sudan, as a new born state, has been striving for the development of a constitution that reflects the will of its people. We are pleased to support this important exercise which will contribute to the further promotion of democracy, good governance and rule of law in South Sudan."

"The support of the Government of Japan will help the Government of South Sudan to reach out to its citizens, listen to their views that will be reflected in shaping the Constitution. This will strengthen democracy at the grass roots level and enhance the credibility of democracy in South Sudan", stated Balázs Horváth, UNDP Country Director.

Since 2009, Japan has contributed over US \$14 million to support various UNDP programmes in South Sudan. This includes CPA-mandated elections and the referendum, support to democratic governance, rule of law, and community security and arms control. A two-phase police reform project amounting to US \$2 million was successfully completed in June 2012. In March 2013, the Government of Japan provided US \$1 million to support UNDP in increasing access to justice and rule of law for conflict affected communities and returnees in South Sudan.

**END**

### **About UNDP**

UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. We are on the ground in 177 countries and territories,

working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw on the people of UNDP and on our wide range of partners.

[www.ss.undp.org](http://www.ss.undp.org)

**Embassy of Japan**

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/embjapan/southsudan/en/index.html>

**For more information, please contact:**

**Hisako Ishizaki**, Embassy of Japan in South Sudan/ +211 959 003 152 Email: [hisako.ishizaki@mofa.go.jp](mailto:hisako.ishizaki@mofa.go.jp)

**Shojiro Nishimura**, Embassy of Japan in South Sudan/ +211 956 481 145 Email: [shojiro.nishimura@mofa.go.jp](mailto:shojiro.nishimura@mofa.go.jp)

**Murtaza Shibli**, Communications Specialist, UNDP South Sudan/ +211 956213014 Email: [murtaza.shibli@undp.org](mailto:murtaza.shibli@undp.org)