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**Japan Inaugurates**

**Simple Type Water Treatment System**

**With Japanese Technology**

An inauguration ceremony for the project for a “Simple Type Water Treatment System” was held on 5 August 2016, in the presence of H.E. Ato Kebede Gerba, State Minister of Water, Irrigation and Energy of Ethiopia, H.E. Mr. Kazuhiro Suzuki, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Ethiopia, and Mr. Kanetoshi ODA, Chairman and CEO of POLY-GLU SOCIAL BUSINESS CO., LTD., at Burayou Town in Oromia Special Zone. During the inauguration ceremony, Ambassador Suzuki delivered a congratulatory message and was welcomed by the communities who can now easily access safe drinking water.

In total USD 96,479 was provided by Japan’s Grant Assistance for Grassroots and Human Security Projects (GGP) to support the installation of water supply facilities for approximately 7,000 community residents in Burayou Town.

In his congratulatory remarks, H.E. Ambassador Suzuki stated: “An innovative and environmentally-friendly water purification technology was invented by POLY-GLU SOCIAL BUSINESS CO., LTD., a Japanese SME based in Osaka Prefecture. Through Poly Glu’s unique and creative method, the Ethiopian society can benefit from bottom sanitation and improve the quality of life”.

During the event, Mr. Kanetoshi ODA, Chairman and CEO of POLY-GLU SOCIAL BUSINESS CO., LTD. introduced the “Simple Type Water Treatment System” and demonstrated its water purification procedure with flocculant powder called PGα21Ca® (commonly known as Poly Glu), hoping to contribute to improving and enhancing Ethiopians’ access to safe drinking water. He said, “This system is very simple. I believe anybody can construct one like this. So, I recommend you copy this and install the same one in other areas”.

The system has already made great successes in rural and urban communities in Tanzania, Bangladesh and Somalia, and POLY-GLU SOCIAL BUSINESS CO., LTD. is seeking for opportunities to bring their successes to Ethiopia with this pilot project in Burayou Town in Oromia Special Zone in collaboration with the Government of Japan.

The GGP was first introduced in 1989, and in Ethiopia, over 400 projects have been implemented through this scheme in such sectors as education, water supply, health services, and other basic human needs.

**August 5, 2016**

**Addis Ababa**