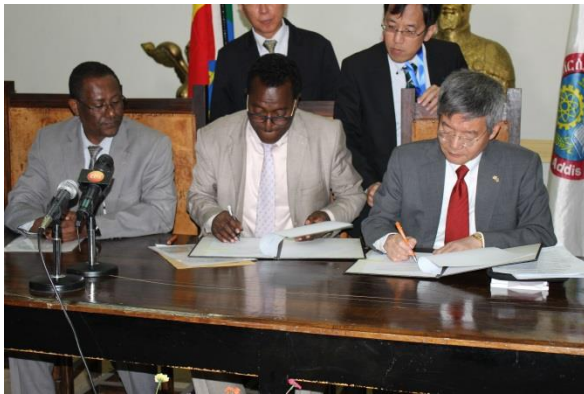


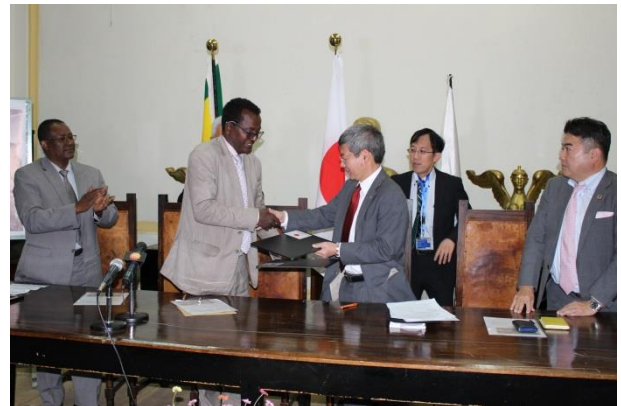
Japan Grant Aid for the Project for the Restoration of IES's Ras Makonnen Hall at Addis Ababa University

On December 11th, H.E. Mr. Daisuke Matsunaga, Ambassador of Japan to Ethiopia signed the grant contract with Dr. Ahmed Hassen, Director of Institute of Ethiopian Studies (IES) at AAU, for the Project for the Restoration of IES's Ras Makonnen Hall, located within the historic Guenete Luel Palace, the former residence of Emperor Haile Selassie. Dr. Jailu Umer, Vice President of Addis Ababa University, witnessed as a recipient in the signing ceremony.

The grant amounting to USD 85,679 (equivalent to ETB 2,403,500) will be used to restore Ras Makonnen Hall as both a functional and historical multi-purpose lecture hall, while retaining its cultural and historical values by repairing damaged parts, restoring the interior, and installing new equipment.



*H.E. Ambassador Matsunaga and Dr. Ahmed
signing grant contract*



*H.E. Ambassador Matsunaga and Dr. Ahmed
exchanging grant contract*