

Signing Ceremony for “The Economic and Social Development Programme”

On 28 September 2022, Japan signed an Exchange of Notes for “The Economic and Social Development Programme”. The signing ceremony was held by H.E. Ms. Takako Ito, Ambassador of Japan to Ethiopia and H.E. Ms. Semereta Sewasew, State Minister of Finance, and was witnessed by H.E. Dr. Lia Tadesse, Minister of Health, on the premise of the Ministry of Finance. The agreement of the Economic and Social Development Programme is a grant aid worth approximately USD 3.5 million, equivalent to Birr 185 million.

Under this Grant Aid, ten mobile clinic vehicles will be procured to be utilized by hospitals in the Afar, Somali, Benshangul Gumuz, Gambella and Southwest Ethiopia Regions. These regions, identified for support by the Ministry of Health, have poor health service coverage and higher maternal mortality rates compared with other regions in the country. The mobile clinic vehicles will be equipped with ultrasound, electrocardiograph and basic medical equipment, and are expected to benefit around 800,000 pregnant and lactating women in the five regions.

During the signing ceremony, Ambassador Ito stated “At the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) held in Tunis last month, Japan confirmed its commitment to support achieving universal health coverage in African countries, and this grant aid is one of the initiatives that puts Japan’s commitment into action by cooperating in the promotion of UHC and the development and strengthening of the healthcare security system” and “I sincerely hope that the new mobile clinic vehicles will strengthen the capacity of hospitals in these five regions in Ethiopia to provide maternal health services to all those mothers in need”.



Signing the agreement



Group Photo