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### **JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Launching of the Project funded by the Government of Japan for construction of Primary Health Care Center in Nesitu**

Juba, 23 March 2018 – The Japanese Ambassador to South Sudan H.E Seiji Okada and the Community Needs Initiative (CNI) Country Team Leader Mr. Taban James Wani launched the project for construction of primary health care unit (PHCU) and latrines in Nesitu, by signing a project grant contract on March 21, 2018. The project is going to provide access to basic health services for population of approximately 45,000 people in Nesitu and surrounding communities.

H. E Ambassador of Japan to South Sudan Mr. Seiji Okada explained that his government support various sectors in South Sudan, ranging from Humanitarian, Capacity Building, and Development assistance. “This project is very important since it will raise the health standard of the community of Nesitu and the surrounding communities. Once it is completed, it will bring health services closest to people of Nesitu and surrounding communities.”

Mr. Taban James Wani, Country Team Leader, Community Needs Initiative, commented “we, CNI, prioritize needs of the community and we always want our services to be felt big in the community. For this project, we are very optimistic about it’s successful completion. Above all, we, CNI, greatly thank the Government of Japan for selecting our organization to be the implementer of this project.”

Dr. Sally, Director General, State Ministry of Health, gave remarks on the crucial nature of the project to his state. He said, “on behalf of State Ministry of Health, I would like to thank people of Japan for generous and enormous assistances they always give to us. Our ministry will keep the PHCU running once it is constructed. We will provide drugs, medical staffs and many medical services to keep the facility functional to help vulnerable people of Nesitu and surrounding communities.”

Mr. James Tongun, Community Chief of Nesitu, briefly explained their needs of health facility in his area. He explained, “Nesitu is far away from Juba and sometimes minor illness do take away life due to lack of medical drugs and services in Nesitu. We have seen women dying during delivery because there is neither clinic nor medical vehicle to transport them to Juba. The construction of this PHCU will greatly help my people”.

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