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PRESS RELEASE

Japan contributes Additional Funds for Peace, Security efforts and Humanitarian Assistance in Cameroon

Yaounde, 24 March 2021 – The Government of Japan has again renewed and reiterated its support for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees as well as supporting peace and security in Cameroon by granting 6.3million US dollars in new contributions to the programmes of UN agencies in 2021.

This continued assistance from the Government of Japan seeks to reinforce the resilience and address the growing and urgent needs of vulnerable groups such as displaced population, refugees, and host communities affected by crises in the North-West, South-West, three Eastern regions and Far North region of Cameroon, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the Ambassador of Japan to Cameroon, H.E Tsutomu Osawa, *“United Nations organizations’ work with Japanese funding is very important for supporting these vulnerable groups. Through this humanitarian aid, we would like to show our solidarity with Cameroon and United Nations organizations.”*

Since 2015, Japanese contributions to humanitarian efforts in Cameroon amounted to over 53.3 million USD. Through these contributions, UN agencies have been able to significantly reduce the vulnerability of affected populations, especially youth and women, and strengthen their capacities and empowerment.

“I commend the continuous support of the Government of Japan, which will enable the UN system and its partners to reach the most vulnerable and tackle the tremendous protection challenges they face. As the UN and the Government prepare to launch the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan-HRP, I call on other partners to follow in Japan’s footsteps and support humanitarian efforts in Cameroon,” said the RC.

The total amount of **6.3million US dollars** will be allocated to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP) the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the International Organisation for Migration(IOM) as follows:

- **300,000 USD** for UNDP to provide *“Support to EIFORCES’ training capacity building for multi-stakeholders’ initiatives in achieving human security, crisis recovery and*

sustainable peace". The Project aims at reinforcing EIFORCES capabilities to bolster Cameroon and the subregion's Security Forces preparedness and readiness to work with civilian actors in building sustainable peace and security. The project will also ensure the successful rise of multi-stakeholders' initiatives for peace and security and to consolidate research capabilities for adequate situation analysis for the benefit of national and sub-regional decision makers.

- **1,000,000 USD** for UNICEF to provide *"Support to IDPs, refugees and host communities affected by conflict through the strengthening of community-based child protection mechanisms and the provision of basic health care and services in North West, South West and East Regions"*. The project's main objective is to ensure that Mothers, children, newborns of displaced families, and conflict affected communities receive life-saving services. These services include vaccination for preventable diseases, treatment of common childhood illnesses, essential newborn care, and knowledge on public health to protect themselves from diseases, including the COVID-19 pandemic in the North West/South West and East regions. It will also strengthen community-based systems to prevent and respond to child protection risks, including monitoring and documentation of child rights violations, mental health and psychosocial support, positive parenting intervention, provision of birth registration services within the communities, unaccompanied and separated children, gender-based violence and justice for children within the COVID-19 context in the North West, South West, and East Regions.
- **1,500,000 USD** for WFP to provide *"Humanitarian food assistance and livelihood support to vulnerable refugees, IDPs and local communities in Cameroon"*. The overall objective of the programme is to provide food assistance to food insecure populations affected by crises in the Far North, North, East, Adamawa, North West and South West regions of Cameroon through general food distributions and asset creation activities for early recovery and livelihood building.
- **2,000,000 USD** for UNHCR to provide *"Protection and Solutions: Lifesaving livelihoods, health & nutrition for refugees from the Central African Republic and Nigeria and Internally Displaced Persons in the Far North, North West and South West regions of Cameroon"*. UNHCR intends to respond to critical priorities for CAR and Nigerian refugees, and Internally Displaced Persons in the Far North, North West and South West regions of Cameroon through: Health - Support access to healthcare and nutrition to the benefit of CAR and Nigerian refugees; Livelihoods and self-reliance - Support in livelihoods to CAR refugees, IDPs and host communities in the East, North and Adamawa Region; Shelter and NFIs - Provision of emergency shelters to CAR and Nigerian refugees; IDPs in the Far North, North West and South West regions as well as vulnerable households in their communities.
- **1,498,000 USD** for IOM in *"Strengthening Community resilience and recovery in Cameroon for the humanitarian development peace nexus"*. The objective of the project is to promote peace and stability in the Far North by building the resilience of conflict-affected communities through enhanced economic empowerment, social cohesion, psychosocial activities, whilst conducting additional research on key

opportunities for youth engagement and livelihoods in the North-West, South-West regions.

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