Remarks of Mr. Sobashima Hidenobu, Ambassador of Japan to the Federated States of Micronesia at the Handover Ceremony of the Project for Improving School Environment for Rumuu Elementary School in Yap State

on Tuesday 3 March 2020

The Hon. Henry Falan, Governor, Yap State,

The Hon. Jesse Salalu, Lt. Governor, Yap State,

Mr. Francis Itamai, Chief of Staff to the Governor,

Mr. Arnold Yokbay Ken, Waab Area School Administrator,

and Mr. Peter Deffmew, Infrastructure Coordinator, both of the Department of Education, Yap State,

Ms. Lydia Kadugyed, Head Teacher, Rumuu Elementary School,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honor and pleasure to represent the Government of Japan at this handover ceremony of the Project for Improving School Environment for Rumuu Elementary School in Yap State.

On the occasion of the visit of H.E. Mr. David Panuelo, President of the Federated States of Micronesia to Japan in November last year, H.E. Mr. Abe Shinzo, Prime Minister of Japan stated that Japan would strengthen support to the FSM’s sustainable economic and social development.

At the time when the request for cooperation was made, Ramuu Elementary School which had 64 pupils with 9 teachers and officials lacked fences and walls, allowing intruders at nights and on the weekends, who vandalized and damaged the school.

The lack of the drainage facilities at the school caused a bad sanitary situation threatening spread of infectious diseases.

Thus the request was made from the Department of Education, Yap State to the Government of Japan for the Grant Assistance to build fences and drainage facilities at the school.

A grant contract amounting to up to 80,320 US Dollars, was signed in March 2018, to provide Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects by the Government of Japan, to construct fences and drainage facilities in Rumuu Elementary School for improving its education environment.

The construction was completed last year.

With the completion of this project, the study environment for the pupils here has been improved, to provide safe, secure and healthy education.

Congratulations!

In conclusion, I hope that the improved Rumuu Elementary School will provide the better education to the pupils in the better environment, and will develop to become a symbol of the friendship between Japan and the FSM.

Thank you.