

REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR KAZUhide ISHIKAWA
ON THE OCCASION OF THE
INAUGURATION OF THE
SOLAR ELECTRICITY GENERATION SYSTEM

28 April 2016

Philippine National Police, Quezon City

HONORABLE SECRETARY Zanaida Y. Monsada,
Department of Energy

HONORABLE SECRETARY Mel Senen S. Sarmiento,
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HONORABLE POLICE DIRECTOR GENERAL Ricardo C. Marquez,
Philippine National Police

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS;

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Good morning / *Magandang umaga po*. It is my great honor to join you for this inauguration ceremony of solar electricity generation system today.

The role of energy sector is vital in sustainable development. In particular, utilization of clean energy resources like solar, wind, hydro, is very important to this end. Japan, as one of the leading countries in clean energy technology, has made strenuous efforts in developing state-of-the-art technology and system in this field. This project offers a good example of such kind of Japanese technology to the Philippines, and arouses people's awareness on the importance of clean energy.

Last year was a memorable one for international effort to save the Earth's environment. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted last September at the United Nations Summit. One of its targets is to increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix by 2030.

Also, the Paris Agreement was adopted last December at COP21, and I would like to congratulate the 175 countries and regions, including the Philippines and Japan, on signing the Agreement last week in New York. Without maximum utilization of clean energy, no country will be able to fulfill its commitment to reduce emission. In line with these international movements, Japan is formulating the "Energy and Environment Innovation Strategy", which will focus more than ever on clean energy technology.

Neither the Philippines nor Japan is rich in natural energy resources. Therefore, it would be wonderful if Japanese clean energy technology could help support Philippines' effort to meet these challenges. This solar electricity generation system is just one of the examples. And, I hope this grant assistance will be a good step forward for further collaboration between the two countries in clean energy generation in many years to come.

Thank you. / *Maraming Salamat po.*