

Judo Experts from Japan & Handover Ceremony for Judogis

Embassy of Japan in Botswana

16th March 2018

Two Judo experts from Japan visited Botswana through the assistance of the Japan Foundation, from the 26th of February to the 7th of March 2018. The visit was hosted by Botswana Judo Federation which organized classes for experts to coach wide range of Botswana's Judokas from juniors to adults. Mr. Hitoshi Sugai is an acclaimed Judoka who won 1985 and 1987 Judo World Champion, and participated in the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul. Mr. Masayuki Keage is also a well-known Judoka who has been coaching all over the world including Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Tanzania and Mozambique. This is his second time to visit and coach in Botswana.

Upon their arrival, 50 pieces of Judogis were donated to Botswana Judo Federation by Japanese Non-profit Organization called Solidarity of International Judo Education. A Handover ceremony of judogis and majority of classes were held at Sensei Itsubo Memorial Dojo. The name of the Dojo is derived from the late Judo coach Keisuke Itsubo who was dispatched to Botswana as a JICA volunteer. The dojo was constructed last year on a plot of land provided by Botswana National Sports Council through the assistance of the Government of Japan as well as International Judo Federation and Itsubo's family. It is expected that Botswana's Judokas will compete at the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2020 taking the maximum benefit of Judo experts, Judogis and Sensei Itsubo Memorial Dojo.



Handover Ceremony for Judogis Donated by Japanese
NPO Solidarity of International Judo Education



Remarks by Ambassador Takeda



Vote of Thanks by Mr. Mongwaketse, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture



Judo Demonstration by Mr. Keage



Mr. Sugai and Botswana's Junior Judokas



Mr. Keage and Botswana's Judo Kids



Botswana's Senior Judokas



Japanese Ambassador, Judo Experts and Judo Kids at the Botsalano Primary School