Embassy of Japan

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Japan's Projects for Sports Diplomacy Enhancement extends support to Botswana

22nd November 2024

On the 20th November 2024, the Embassy of Japan in Botswana handed over a donation of Badminton sporting equipment, on behalf of the Nippon Badminton Association, to the Botswana Badminton Association. This donation included 70 badminton rackets, 160 Shuttlecocks, 5 Badminton Grips, 3 Badminton Racket Covers and 1 Badminton String Set.

In his speech, Ambassador OHMORI shared that this was an initiative made by individual sports people of Japan, whose efforts are supported by the Government of Japan through its Embassies, as a programme that enhances diplomacy through sports, promoting the mutual understanding between Japan and other countries. He added that the Botswana Badminton Association is a beneficiary of the 2024 Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, whose donation aims to support their JOCV, Mr. FUKUDA Keita's activities in Botswana, and the activities of the Association, to further enable their volunteer in providing appropriate guidance to his students.

For his part, the Minister of Sports & Arts, Mr. Jacob Kelebeng, extended his profound gratitude to the Ambassador and the people of Japan for their gesture, on behalf of the Botswana Government, his Ministry and the President of Botswana Badminton Association. He added that such equipment is difficult to source locally, and regionally, and therefore calls for proper use and accountability in ensuring sport development in Botswana. The Minister assured the people of Japan that they received the equipment with utmost happiness and urged all whom the equipment is meant for to ensure that it is put to good use, and to commit to that narrative.

Mr. Modisaotsile Badubi, the President of Botswana Badminton Association accepted the donation with gratefulness, emphasizing that it will go a long way in advancing sport in Botswana. He added that learning from advanced countries like Japan will definitely bear fruits for Botswana. He vowed to ensure that the donation benefits all Batswana and is well taken care of and put to good use.

Participants for the Handover Ceremony

Donated Badminton Equipment from the Nippon Badminton Association