18 April 2016, Sana’a, Yemen -- The World Health Organization expresses its gratitude for a contribution of US$ 6 million from the Government of Japan to support its response operations in Yemen. This contribution will ensure access to life-saving health and nutrition services for more than 922 000 Yemenis living in 5 governorates. Since 2011, the Government of Japan has contributed a total of almost US$ 150 million to support WHO’s work in Yemen, where more than 21 million people are currently in need of humanitarian aid.

“Support from the government and people of Japan is a key in WHO’s efforts to save lives and ease the suffering of Yemenis. Their generous contributions have made it possible for us to provide life-saving medicines and medical supplies, essential health care, including care for newborn babies and their mothers, and immunization services to millions of people in need,” says Dr Ahmed Shadoul, WHO Representative to Yemen. “When the current conflict began in March 2015, the timely support received from the Government of Japan was instrumental in allowing WHO to provide an immediate and effective response.”

Despite facing significant challenges as a result of the ongoing crisis in Yemen, WHO continues to respond to the increasing health needs of millions of people across the country. As the crisis continue to escalate, WHO’s assistance programme in Yemen for 2016 is severely under-funded.

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