

JAPAN'S SUPPORT TO NIGERIA TOWARDS POLIO ERADICATION

25 AUGUST 2020

The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared Nigeria wild polio free on 25 August 2020. It is a triumphant day for the international campaign against polio. This achievement follows Nigeria's success in August 2019, as the last polio-endemic country in the African continent, passing the requisite three years since its last reported case of wild polio.

Japan played a pivotal role in supporting Nigeria to attain the wild poliovirus free status by providing series of assistance aimed at eradicating the virus. Notable among these are:

1. Through UNICEF, the Government of Japan's support to Nigeria on polio eradication commenced in 2000 with a grant aid project to procure Oral Polio Vaccines and to establish a cold chain. The total amount of this project was USD 73.6million.
2. The ODA loan agreement in 2014 in which the Government of Japan provided USD 75.5million for polio eradication projects in Nigeria.
3. The Government of Japan provided USD33.3 million to UNICEF for emergency polio eradication programmes in Nigeria and the Lake Chad region.

In addition, the Government of Japan, through technical cooperation assistance, provided equipment to two Nigerian national polio laboratories that are members of the WHO inspection network.

Japan will continue to work with the Nigerian people to improve the health and medical sector. The Embassy of Japan hopes that this kind of assistance will further strengthen the amicable relationship between Japan and Nigeria.

For further information, please refer to the link below:

<https://www.afro.who.int/news/africa-eradicates-wild-poliovirus>

