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PNG • JAPAN

Japanese Govt. helps military band



Japanese Ambassador Morio Matsumoto (left) and PNG Defence Force commander Brigadier-General Gilbert Toropo after the signing of official documents to improve musical instruments for the military band yesterday at the embassy in Port Moresby.

Japanese govt helps military band

By ALPHONES PORAU

JAPAN will assist the Papua New Guinea Defence Force military band with K340,000 to prepare for the 2018 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders summit.

Speaking during the signing ceremony of the project in Port Moresby yesterday, Japanese Ambassador Morio Matsumoto said it was part of the Japanese government's commitment to assist Papua New Guinea in the Apec summit.

"When Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met Prime Minister Peter O'Neill on May 28, Prime Minister Abe reaffirmed Japan's willingness to support PNG's preparation for the Apec 2018, and specifically mentioned Japan's decision to provide musical instruments to the military band," he said.

Matsumoto said Japan's assistance would equip a 32-member band and provide technical training for them.

"The provision of musical instruments will be effectively combined with the technical training which Japanese experts will provide for the members of the PNGDF military band in the near future."

Speaking on behalf of his government, he urged the defence force to do its best in managing the project well.

The assistance comes as part of Japan's cultural grant to Papua New Guinea.