

Joint Declaration of Intent on Japanese - German Cooperation  
on the Promotion of Research and Development  
in Advanced Artificial Intelligence  
between  
the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan  
and  
the Federal Ministry of Education and Research  
of the Federal Republic of Germany

The Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Akimasa ISHIKAWA of Japan(METI) and the Federal Minister of Education and Research Anja KARLICZEK of the Federal Republic of Germany(BMBF) have shared the views as follows and have come to the shared recognition to make efforts in both Japan and Germany towards bilateral cooperation to promote research and development (R&D) in Advanced Artificial Intelligence (Advanced AI).

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has developed to become a key technology worldwide. The rapid technological development in the field of AI and the global changes in production and value chains accelerated by new AI technologies must be taken into account regarding future cooperation between Japan and Germany. Research and innovation are the foundations for the AI technologies of the future. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Chancellor Angela Merkel have recently confirmed their mutual interest in strong bilateral cooperation in the field of AI.
2. The Government of Japan is on the way of renewing its Artificial Intelligence Strategy toward G20 in June 2019. This strategy will cover several important policies in the field of AI including human resource development, ethics, and R&D. In line with this strategy, METI will lead innovation in the field of Advanced AI, including the so-called "Explainable AI" which enables AI to explain its decision process as well as assurance of the quality of AI, in order to enhance installation of AI to a wide variety of industries, including manufacturing, healthcare, transportation and beyond.
3. The Federal Government of Germany pursues its National Strategy of Artificial Intelligence, launched in November 2018 which shall expand the competitiveness of the German economy and promote the manifold applications of AI in all areas of the society. BMBF will enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of AI, especially in the context of the G7 and the

G20.

4. METI and BMBF welcome the strong cooperation between the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) and the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), which signed the Memorandum of Understanding in March 2017 and have established a close relationship, including holding of a joint workshop and joint research in the field of AI for autonomous driving.
5. METI and BMBF also welcome that, at AIST Artificial Intelligence Research Center International Symposium held in Tokyo in February 2019, both AIST and DFKI have begun to discuss a new concept called “Co-evolution AI”, in which both AI and humans evolve their knowledge by interacting with each other.
6. METI and BMBF will extend activities and collaborations between AIST and DFKI. METI and BMBF also intend to make efforts to deploy AI technologies achieved by the cooperation between AIST and DFKI to the world market.

Signed in Tokyo, on April 16, 2019

For the Ministry of Economy, Trade  
and Industry of Japan

For the Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research of the  
Federal Republic of Germany

*Signature*

*Signature*

Akimasa ISHIKAWA  
Parliamentary Vice-Minister of  
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Anja KARLICZEK  
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