## Joint Statement

## between the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Minister of Research, Innovation and Digitalization of Romania on cooperation in innovation, economic and digitalization sectors

On May 6, Mr. Yasutoshi NISHIMURA, the minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, of Japan and Mr. Sebastian BURDUJA, the minister of Research, Innovation and Digitalization of Romania met in Bucharest to discuss bilateral economic relations.

Romania welcomed the first visit of the Mr. Yasutoshi NISHIMURA and the accompanying Japanese business mission to the country. In addition to bilateral ministerial meetings, the two ministers chaired roundtable with participation of business sectors from both countries.

The ministers exchanged views and opinions regarding the way of strengthening the research on IT sphere and business sectors in both countries. They acknowledged the importance of the development of innovation based both on advanced digital technologies and skilled IT human resources in Romania.

Furthermore, the ministers affirmed to strength the bilateral cooperation by promoting business activities including digital and innovation areas, through mutual exchange of business and industrial information, as well as other cooperation activities for mutual benefits.

To stimulate further cooperation in response to the current demand of companies in both countries, the two ministers, will explore the potential of cooperation by institutions such as Japan External Trade Organization, and the corresponding Romanian economic institutions, such as;

- (a) Supporting trade and investment between Romania and Japan
- (b) Supporting collaboration between Romanian and Japanese business sectors including business matching
- (c) Supporting cooperation in human resources development, in particular the IT sector
- (d) Supporting innovation and start-ups in both countries

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