

Joint Statement
between the Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry of Japan and
the Minister of Enterprises and Made in Italy of the Italian Republic

On December 12, 2023, we the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, NISHIMURA Yasutoshi, and the Minister of Enterprises and Made in Italy of the Italian Republic, Adolfo Urso, met in Tokyo to discuss bilateral economic relations.

Considering that last January the Italian and Japanese Heads of Government elevated the level of the bilateral relations to a “Strategic Partnership,” we the Ministers exchanged views on launching a strategic dialogue in the economic and industrial fields on our common policy priorities, with a view of strengthening the multilateral and bilateral cooperation in the economic and industrial fields.

We the Ministers acknowledged the importance of increasing mutual investments and cooperating in industrial research and welcomed the strengthening of cooperation to promote business activities between Japan and Italy.

Considering the relations between Japan and Italy in the economic and industrial sectors, which have led to high-level of trade, substantial investment and business collaborations - facilitated also by the Italy Japan Business Group (IJBG) platform active since 1989 – we the Ministers concurred in stimulating further cooperation, in response to the current demand of companies in both countries, by:

- Facilitating trade and investment between Japan and Italy;
- Promoting collaborations among Japanese and Italian companies and start-ups, with the assistance of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and *Istituto Commercio Estero* (ICE/Italian Trade Agency -ITA), other relevant institutions, and the IJBG;
- Exploring the possibility of cooperation including joint industrial research projects in sectors of mutual interest and priority, such as semi-conductors, biotech, energy, mobility and other sectors of mutual interest.

This statement neither creates any legally binding obligations, nor confers any rights.

Adolfo URSO
Minister of Enterprises and Made in Italy
of the Italian Republic

NISHIMURA Yasutoshi
Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry
of Japan
