

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION  
BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, TRADE AND INDUSTRY OF JAPAN  
AND  
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE OF HUNGARY  
ON COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION  
IN THE FIELD OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary (hereinafter referred to jointly as the “Participants”),

**STEMMING** from the distinguished relations between the government of Japan and the government of Hungary;

**CONSIDERING** that Japan and Hungary are members of the International Atomic Energy Agency (hereinafter referred to as the “IAEA”), and as such they are guided by the principles of peaceful uses of nuclear energy;

**GUIDED** by the provisions of treaties under IAEA auspices and IAEA related treaties to which both states are parties;

**CONFIRMING** that IAEA safeguards are an essential component of the international security system and that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is the centrepiece of global efforts to prevent the further spread of nuclear weapons;

**NOTING** that the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are a key factor in fostering the social, scientific and economic development of the Participants;

**REAFFIRMING** their desire to place the highest priority on nuclear safety and the protection of human health and the environment in both countries in the course of implementing their nuclear programs;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that “the needed increase in global nuclear energy will require strategic international collaboration” as stated in the Joint Communiqué signed in Paris 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023, and the significance of cooperation between Japan and Hungary as like-minded countries with shared values that opt to use nuclear energy;

**EMPHASIZING** the importance of innovative and clean energy technologies in promoting sustainable development;

**RECOGNIZING** the importance of nuclear energy in the safe, secure, sustainable and affordable electricity supply of Japan and Hungary;

**CONSIDERING** the extensive and successful experience of Japan and Hungary in highly safe nuclear power-related technologies that both countries possess;

**CONSCIOUS** of the unique position of nuclear energy within their national energy mixes and its key role in achieving global carbon neutrality, and the importance of nuclear technology in the field of science, research and innovation, including in the fields of science, research and innovation and knowledge building;

**DESIRING** that both countries will promote and develop cooperation between them in the field of nuclear energy including advanced nuclear technologies and small modular reactors (hereinafter referred to as SMR), nuclear-based hydrogen production, nuclear power plant safety improvements and human resources development; and

**AFFIRMING** their intentions to initiate dialogues on nuclear development plans of the governments of the Participants in order to contribute to the decarbonization of the economy and to create a forward-looking, innovative nuclear industry in line with the IAEA guidelines and energy security considerations;

**the Participants have reached the following recognition:**

#### **PARAGRAPH 1 OBJECTIVES**

The Participants intend to enhance bilateral cooperation and provide a general framework for discussion about economic development (e.g., supply chain, fuel manufacture, skilled employment) and cooperation on supporting the development and deployment of current, advanced and future nuclear technologies in order to address climate change, energy demand and economic growth.

#### **PARAGRAPH 2 AREAS OF COOPERATION**

In order to achieve the objectives mentioned in Paragraph 1, the Participants intend to cooperate in particular in the following areas:

2.1 Exchange of information and sharing of best practices to address key issues for advanced nuclear technologies and SMR deployment including technological readiness, economics and financing, spent fuel and radioactive waste management and public and private engagement;

2.2. Strengthening of nuclear supply-chain, to be much more flexible and effective in technologies development;

2.3. Cooperation in Long-Term Operation of current nuclear power plants and their safety improvement;

2.4. Collaboration for developing Japanese and Hungarian infrastructure for the responsible use of nuclear energy and technologies;

2.5. Collaboration in the field of exchange of information and best practices in the field of operation and maintenance of current and advanced nuclear reactors and research of SMR reactor technologies.

### **PARAGRAPH 3**

#### **COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PARTICIPANTS**

To achieve the objectives of this Memorandum of Cooperation(hereinafter referred to as “MOC”), the Participants plan to promote cooperation at both the political and technical levels to leverage mutual synergies in the field of nuclear energy in both countries. Forms of cooperation under this MOC may include:

3.1 Political and technical support in the nuclear energy sector for entities actively involved in the development of nuclear technologies and mutual exchange of information at the ministerial, operator, energy supplier and academic levels.

3.2 Exchange of scientific knowledge and experiences, support for cooperation between companies and other entities.

3.3 Support for relevant entities, particularly business companies and other entities, in activities supporting the goals and purposes of this MOC.

3.4 Consultations on fundamental steps that could impact the achievement of the common objectives of cooperation stated in this MOC.

3.5 Joint meetings for expert consultations regarding the implementation of cooperation to support the purpose and objectives of this MOC. Other entities may participate in these consultations by mutual decision of the Participants.

### **PARAGRAPH 4**

#### **WORKING GROUP**

4.1. The Participants and the Ministry of Energy of Hungary are the counterparts responsible for coordinating all programmes of cooperation conducted under this MOC.

4.2. For this purpose, the Participants may establish a working group composed of representatives from the Participants, and the Ministry of Energy of Hungary and other relevant entities of each Participant, responsible for the policy areas concerned by this MOC, for identifying areas of cooperation, reviewing progress, and assessing the results of cooperation, as well as considering any other aspects relevant to supporting the purpose of this MOC.

4.3. The Working Group will hold consultations and meetings on a regular basis and welcome the participation of representatives of the relevant stakeholders.

#### **PARAGRAPH 5 CONFIDENTIALITY**

Information recognized as confidential related to this MOC should be kept confidential, and the Participants should under no circumstances disclose this information to any third person or organization without the prior written consent of the other Participant. This confidentiality paragraph should continue to have effect without time limit.

#### **PARAGRAPH 6 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Any costs for the actions to be taken within the context of this MOC will be borne by the Participants according to their ordinary budget availability without any additional cost for the State Budgets of Japan and Hungary.

#### **PARAGRAPH 7. ADMINISTRATIVE NATURE OF THE MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION**

7.1. This MOC does not create legally-binding rights or obligations under international law. It is confirmed that nothing in this MOC should be considered or construed obligatory. To that extent, if any expressions refer to or indicate any obligations it should be interpreted as making the best endeavours.

- 7.2. This MOC does not affect the rights and obligations of the Participants derived from other international treaties to which their States are parties, and will not prevent the Participants from abiding by the obligations arising from EU membership, and from abiding the provisions of IAEA treaties and meeting IAEA recommendations.

#### **PARAGRAPH 8. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

Any dispute that may arise from the interpretation or implementation of this MOC will be settled by consultations and negotiations between the Participants.

#### **PARAGRAPH 9. ADDITIONS AND MODIFICATIONS**

By mutual consent of the Participants additions and modifications may be made to this MOC in the form of separate arrangement being an integral part of the present MOC and commenced in accordance with the procedure mentioned in Paragraph 10.1.

**PARAGRAPH 10.**  
**COMMENCEMENT, DURATION AND DISCONTINUATION**

10.1. This MOC is commenced on the later date of signature by both Participants.

10.2. This MOC is concluded for a period of 5 (five) years. It will be automatically renewed for additional periods of 5 (five) years unless either Participant notifies through diplomatic channels the other Participant in writing at least six (6) months in advance of its intention to discontinue this MOC.

Signed in Tokyo, Japan, on May 21, 2024, in two original copies, in the English language