## Joint Statement of the Meeting between the representatives of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic

On June 26, 2025, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI), Mr. Akiyoshi Kato, and Deputy Minister of Transport of the Czech Republic, Mr. Tomáš Vrbík, representing the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Participants") met with Japanese business sector and the Czech business, associations and industry in Prague, Czech Republic to discuss possibilities of cooperation in railway sector and clean mobility with a focus on advanced technologies and smart and sustainable solutions, including for automotive sector, as a pillar of economies of Japan and Czech Republics.

They have reached the following conclusions/understandings:

1. The Participants welcomed the joint Business Forum with participation of 87 companies, authorities and organizations from Japan and the Czech Republic, and reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the cooperation, incubation and acceleration of economic, industrial and research solutions between the two countries.

2. The Participants recognized the potential for infrastructure development, especially in preparation of new High-Speed Rails projects and modernization of conventional rail network, for implementation of new train control system and advanced technologies of intelligent and sustainable transport. They also affirmed the potential for bilateral cooperation with the Czech transport industry, especially in components of railway infrastructure and supplies for urban mobility and in Smart Mobility and implementation of new technologies and innovations in transport where the Czech companies and research teams offer high-quality products and highly skilled workforce. They engaged in discussions about cooperation in PPP in road and rail transport.

3. The Participants encouraged cooperation in the area of clean mobility, having in mind mutual benefits coming from knowledge sharing and technologies development reflecting sustainability of transport, climate change and ecological transition. They concurred to encourage this through the exchange of expertise, study visits, sharing of green technologies or implementation of joint projects among public institutions, business and academic in the virtue to promote global competitiveness and investment in innovation, including advanced technologies such as smart technologies, including autonomous driving or AI, and green inventions/innovations in automotive sector.

4. The Participants affirmed that they intend to encourage investments by Japanese companies in the Czech Republic, and expressed their willingness to explore ways to promote support from both countries to those projects, including but not limited to financial support programs provided by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), METI's "Project to support reconstruction of Ukraine and strengthen cooperation with Central and Eastern Europe" and possible schemes by the Government organizations of the Czech Republic.

5. The Participants recognized the importance of transport for the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine, in which both countries could work together, recognizing the importance of the financial supports through relevant agencies from both countries such as Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI) and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

6. The Participants acknowledged the importance of continued support of Business and Investment Development Agency CzechInvest and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) in response to the current demand of companies in both countries for the realization of new business and projects, including the ones discussed during the visit of business delegation.

This Joint Statement is an international instrument that does not constitute any rights or obligations under international or domestic law.

Mr. Akiyoshi Kato Parliamentary Vice-Minister Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan Mr. Tomáš Vrbík Deputy Minister Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic