Joint Statement of the Meeting between the representatives of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and The Ministry of Industry and Trade 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 Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, Mr. Martin Frélich(hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Participants") participated in the Business Forum in Prague, Czech Republic with the business sector from both countries to discuss energy transformation and digital cooperation, as well as cooperation on the reconstruction of Ukraine.

- 1. The Participants welcomed the forum with participation of 87 companies and organizations from Japan and the Czech Republic, and reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the cooperation between the two countries.
- 2. The Participants, acknowledging the necessity of energy transformation and introduction of clean energy, exchanged views on its development, including nuclear power, hydrogen, renewable energy, battery and CCUS. They also expressed their willingness to deepen cooperation by introducing Japanese advanced technology in these sectors to address current critical issues such as energy security in the wake of Russia's aggression in Ukraine and increase of energy demand caused by economic development.
- 3. The Participants recognized the potential for bilateral cooperation in the digital sector and innovation based on Czech's highly skilled IT workforce. They engaged in discussions about cooperation between Japan and the Czech Republic in these areas with representatives from both the public and private sectors.
- 4. The Participants reconfirmed the importance of cooperation between the two countries in supporting the reconstruction of Ukraine in energy transformation and digital sectors.
- 5. The Participants affirmed that they intend to encourage investments by Japanese companies into Czech Republic, and expressed their willingness to explore ways for both countries to provide support 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 the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR).
- 6. The Participants reaffirmed their intention to promote energy infrastructure-related projects in the Czech Republic and Ukraine and to support the cooperation of Japan and the Czech Republic in those projects, recognizing the importance of the financial support from both countries through relevant agencies such as Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI), Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and Export Guarantee and Insurance Corporation of the Czech Republic (EGAP).
- 7. The Participants acknowledged the importance of continued support of Business and Investment Development Agency Czechlnvest 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 not intended to be legally binding and does not create any rights or obligations or obligations under international or domestic law.

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