

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

ON SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE

BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF ENTERPRISES AND MADE IN ITALY

OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

AND

THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, TRADE AND INDUSTRY OF JAPAN

The Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy of the Italian Republic and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (hereinafter individually referred to as a “Participant” and jointly as “the Participants”):

recalling the historical and long-standing friendship ties between the Italian Republic and Japan;

recognising the importance of secure and sustainable supply chain for advancing high-technology industries that support national security, economic growth and competitiveness through uninterrupted trade flow and enhanced stockpiles and coordination between producer and consumer countries;

recalling the Agreement between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of Japan on cooperation in science and technology, done at Tokyo on 7 October 1988;

expressing their shared desire to strengthen bilateral relations in these fields;

have reached the following Memorandum of Cooperation:

Paragraph 1

Objective

In recognition of the above, this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as the “MoC”) describes how the Participants intend to enhance bilateral collaboration for the industrial ecosystem in high-tech sectors.

Paragraph 2

Areas of Cooperation

The Participants will work together to promote supply chain cooperation in the areas of mutual interest, such as areas related to semiconductors, critical minerals and will explore possible cooperation on technology leakage measures and other areas mutually-decided by the Participants, through the following modalities:

- **exchanging experiences and best practices on** their respective policies and strategies, including through cooperation with relevant third entities;
- **coordinating participation** in major international fora addressing security, sustainability, and resilience of the industrial ecosystem in high-tech sectors such as the G7 semiconductor Point of Contact Group and relevant G7 initiatives relating to critical minerals to strengthen cooperation in areas such as mining, refining, processing, recycling, and stockpiling;
- **promoting sustainable and secure value chains**, as well as related trade and investment opportunities in both countries, as well as in the third countries, including through government initiatives aimed at facilitating matchmaking and supporting the development of high-quality and sustainable projects;
- **facilitating industrial cooperation** between Italian and Japanese stakeholders, including through initiatives supported and coordinated by the Participants, industrial *fora* such as IJBG as well as initiatives involving direct investments, joint ventures, and technology partnerships;
- **identifying areas for mutually beneficial cooperation** in research, innovation and business promotion, including by dispatching business mission relating to advanced technologies;
- **promoting cooperation among relevant organizations** within the respective jurisdictions;
- **any other form of cooperation** mutually decided by the Participants.

Paragraph 3

Forms of Cooperation and Implementation Modalities

1. The areas of mutual interest between the two countries may be discussed primarily through direct bilateral consultations between the Participants. The Participants may also, by mutual consent, decide to convene through the Italy-Japan Economic Security Consultations and Strategic Dialogue in Economy and Industry.
2. Each Participant will designate a “Contact Point”, which will monitor the implementation of this MoC individually and in cooperation with the Contact Point of the other Participant. In case of any change related to the points of contact, the Participants will notify each other promptly.

3. Participants will identify specific contact points for the topics covered under this MoC related to semiconductors, critical minerals, and any other areas of cooperation mutually decided. The Participants will share the relevant details and any subsequent updates.
4. The Participants will convene the initial meeting upon mutual consent and thereafter to meet regularly, whether virtually or in person.
5. The Participants will encourage industry and stakeholder engagement with the private sector in both jurisdictions. The Participants may, where appropriate, invite nongovernmental stakeholders, such as businesses and trade associations, academic and research institutions, and civil society, to participate in the joint projects, activities, or programs carried out under this MoC, after prior consultation with the other Participant.

Paragraph 4 Applicable law and costs

1. The Participants acknowledge that this MoC reflects their common recognition on the promotion of their cooperation in the fields covered by it and that it does not create any legal or financial obligations of the Participants or their States.
2. This MoC will be implemented in accordance with the Italian and Japanese legislation, as well as applicable international law and the obligations arising from Italy's membership of the European Union.
3. This MoC does not constitute an international agreement which may lead to rights and obligations under international law. Nothing in this MoC is to be understood and performed as a legal obligation or commitment of the Participants.
4. Any expenses that may arise from the implementation of this MoC will be covered by the Participants subject to their ordinary budget availability, without any additional cost to the public finances of the Italian Republic and Japan.
5. The expenses arising from the participation to the meetings, such as travel costs and accommodation, will be borne by the Participant to whom they relate. Any other costs associated with such meetings will be borne by the host Participant.

Paragraph 5 Protection of Intellectual Property and Confidentiality

1. Intellectual property rights will be respected and enforced by the Participants throughout the cooperation activities implemented under this MoC. Should any joint activity involve intellectual property rights, on the basis of this MoC, the Participants, in accordance with their respective legislations, will reciprocally determine, in writing and in advance, what constitutes intellectual property rights as well as their adequate and effective protection.
2. The Participants do not intend to exchange sensitive information during activities under this MoC.

**Paragraph 6
Modification**

This MoC may be modified in writing by mutual consent of the Participants.

**Paragraph 7
Language of Communication**

The Participants will use the English language for any correspondence under this MoC.

**Paragraph 8
Differences**

Any difference in the interpretation and/or implementation of this MoC will be settled amicably through direct consultations and negotiations between the Participants.

**Paragraph 9
Final matter**

1. This MoC commences on the date of signature. It will continue for five (5) years and will be automatically renewed for further periods of five (5) years, unless either Participant notifies the other of its intention to discontinue it with a three (3) months prior notice.
2. This MoC may be terminated by either Participant by written notice to the other Participant at least three (3) months prior to the intended date of discontinuation.
3. The termination of this MoC will not affect ongoing projects and other joint activities conducted in line with this MoC before the notice of termination, unless otherwise defined by mutual consent of the Participants.

Signed in Rome, on 15th June 2026 in two (2) originals in the English language, all texts having equal value.

FOR THE MINISTRY OF ENTERPRISES
AND MADE IN ITALY OF THE ITALIAN
REPUBLIC

FOR THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY,
TRADE AND INDUSTRY OF JAPAN

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