

**Memorandum of Cooperation**  
**between**  
**the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan**  
**and**  
**the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações of Portugal**

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan and the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações of Portugal (hereinafter collectively referred to as “the Participants”),

Considering:

- the fundamental role that efficient communications play in the economic and social development and well-being of populations;
- the good relationship between the Participants and the interest of the Participants in strengthening cooperative relationship in the telecommunications and postal sectors;
- the relevant roles that the Participants assume in promoting the sector’s development;
- the value of the existence of a memorandum of cooperation as an instrument for pursuing specific actions, creating an institutional framework of a lasting nature;

Concur on the following:

**Paragraph 1**  
**Objective**

The purpose of this Memorandum is to establish a flexible framework for technical and institutional cooperation in matters related to the Participants’

activities, as national regulatory authorities for the communications sector, with the aim of contributing to its development in their respective countries.

## **Paragraph 2**

### **Cooperative Activities**

Within the scope of this Memorandum, and without prejudice to other matters that may be considered relevant by written consent between the Participants, special attention should be paid to the following objectives:

- a) Exchange of experiences within the scope of the Participants' common competences;
- b) Organizing joint activities or inviting the other to respective existing activities within the competence of the Participants;
- c) Participants' cooperation within the scope of participation in various international *fora*.

## **Paragraph 3**

### **Areas of cooperation**

The policy areas of cooperation in this Memorandum are as follows:

- Resilient telecommunications networks (including 5G and Beyond 5G/6G)
- Development of broadband networks
- Digital Transformation (DX)
- Submarine cables, including advancement of new technologies
- Bridging the digital divide
- Rulemaking and development of AI
- Improvement of postal services and networks
- Online safety
- Collaboration in international *fora* in the telecommunications and postal sectors

## **Paragraph 4**

### **Governance**

1. Without prejudice to the identification of general initiatives that are recognized as necessary by the Participants, the action plan and specific actions to be developed should be defined at a high-level and working level meeting, to take place as often as deemed appropriate, in condition to be concurred between the Participants.

2. The Participants acknowledge that this Memorandum will not be deemed as an international agreement and will not constitute or create any legal obligations governed by international law.

3. In the implementation of this Memorandum, the Participants will maintain high security standards and robust governance arrangements for the handling and processing of sensitive information.

4. The cooperation envisioned in this Memorandum may be carried out through the exchange or transfer of information and documentation, official level meetings, technical missions, or others to be defined, according to the interests of the Participants, under the conditions of the following items.

(a) This Memorandum does not constitute or create and is not intended to constitute or create any legally binding obligations.

(b) This Memorandum commence on the date of its signature and continues for a period of three (3) years, being automatically renewed for equal successive periods, unless either Participant informs the other of the decision of non-renewal under the conditions of the following matters.

(c) The decision not to renew this Memorandum, or to suspend its application, should be transmitted to the other Participant at least sixty

(60) days in advance, before the end of the current period or the date on which the suspension commences.

(d) This Memorandum may be modified at any time by written consent between the Participants.

Signed on the 16th of June of 2023, two original copies to be delivered to each of the Participants, in English language.

*Signed by:*

**YOSHIDA Hiroshi**

*Signed by:*

**João Cadete de Matos**

*For and on behalf of the*

*Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan*

*For and on behalf of :*

*Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações, Portugal*