## Joint Declaration of Intent on German - Japanese Cooperation on the Promotion of Research and Development in Advanced Artificial Intelligence between the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan

The Federal Minister of Education and Research Anja KARLICZEK of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMBF) and the Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Akimasa ISHIKAWA of Japan (METI) have shared the views as follows and have come to the shared recognition to make efforts in both Germany and Japan towards bilateral cooperation to promote research and development (R&D) in Advanced Artificial Intelligence (Advanced AI).

- 1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has developed to become a key technology worldwide. The rapid technological development in the field of AI and the global changes in production and value chains accelerated by new AI technologies must be taken into account regarding future cooperation between Germany and Japan. Research and innovation are the foundations for the AI technologies of the future. Chancellor Angela Merkel and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe have recently confirmed their mutual interest in strong bilateral cooperation in the field of AI.
- 2. The Federal Government of Germany pursues its National Strategy of Artificial Intelligence, launched in November 2018 which shall expand the competitiveness of the German economy and promote the manifold applications of AI in all areas of the society. BMBF will enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of AI, especially in the context of the G7 and the G20.
- 3. The Government of Japan is on the way of renewing its Artificial Intelligence Strategy toward G20 in June 2019. This strategy will cover several important policies in the field of AI including human resource development, ethics, and R&D. In line with this strategy, METI will lead innovation in the field of Advanced AI, including the so-called "Explainable AI" which enables AI to explain its decision process as well as assurance of the quality of AI, in order to enhance installation of AI to

a wide variety of industries, including manufacturing, healthcare, transportation and beyond.

- 4. BMBF and METI welcome the strong cooperation between the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), which signed the Memorandum of Understanding in March 2017 and have established a close relationship, including holding of a joint workshop and joint research in the field of AI for autonomous driving.
- 5. BMBF and METI also welcome that, at AIST Artificial Intelligence Research Center International Symposium held in Tokyo in February 2019, both DFKI and AIST have begun to discuss a new concept called "Co-evolution AI", in which both AI and humans evolve their knowledge by interacting with each other.
- BMBF and METI will extend activities and collaborations between DFKI and AIST. BMBF and METI also intend to make efforts to deploy AI technologies achieved by the cooperation between DFKI and AIST to the world market.

Signed in Tokyo, on April 16, 2019

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For the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of the Federal Republic of Germany

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