## Joint Statement — The 27th Türkiye-Japan Joint Business Committee —

17th October, 2024, Tokyo

On 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, Keidanren (Japan Business Federation, hereinafter "Keidanren") and the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (hereinafter "DEİK") co-organized the 27<sup>th</sup> Japan-Türkiye Joint Business Committee ("Joint Committee" hereinafter) in Tokyo with about 150 participants.

At the Joint Committee meeting, both parties engaged in active and constructive discussions on such issues as the improvement of the business environment, the establishment of mutually beneficial partnerships, and concrete measures to deepen and expand bilateral economic relations. Through the discussions, we not only identified challenges in various areas but also reconfirmed potential for mutually complementary cooperation that leverages each other's strengths to overcome these challenges.

It is important to deepen and expand trade and investment relations by concluding a mutually beneficial EPA with a high level of ambition that will enable a free and smooth movement of natural persons, goods, capital, services, and information. Businesses of both countries will be able to expand their economic activities in much broader regional markets, including in third countries and to seek to promote strategic business development by mutually utilizing the FTA/EPA networks that both countries have. As a result, an improvement in the overall trade balance and further expansion of reciprocal direct investment are expected to be achieved. This is the very reason why Keidanren and DEİK are eager for the earliest conclusion of the EPA between the two countries.

Taking advantage of the opportunity of the 100th Anniversary of Japan-Türkiye Diplomatic Relations, Keidanren and DEİK will make every possible effort to realize the early conclusion of the EPA.

This Joint Statement was compiled and signed in two originals in English on 17th October, 2024.

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