MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN AND

THE STATE COMMITTEE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN FOR ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The Ministry of the Environment of Japan and The State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection, hereinafter referred to individually as a "Participant" and collectively as "the Participants",

Considering the global nature of environmental problems and recognizing mutual responsibility for preservation and improvement of the environment,

Striving to expand the cooperation in the field of environmental protection, recognizing the importance of protecting and improving the environment for present and future generations,

Taking into account the experience gained in the field of international environmental cooperation; and

Based on the provisions of international environmental conventions to which the Participants have joined,

Have reached the following recognition:

Paragraph 1 Objective

The Participants will cooperate in the field of environmental protection on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, guided by the goals and principles of sustainable development, in accordance with national laws and international treaties applicable in their countries.

Paragraph 2 Area of Cooperation

The cooperation under this Memorandum will be in the following areas:

- climate change
- air pollution
- water pollution
- waste management

The cooperation can also be carried out in other areas decided by the Participants.

Paragraph 3 Implementation of Cooperation

The cooperation under this Memorandum may take the following forms:

- capacity building through holding meetings, conferences, symposiums, workshops and so on
- information exchange between government staff or specialists

The cooperation can also be carried out in other forms decided by the Participants.

Paragraph 4 Modification

This Memorandum may be modified at any time through mutual consent of the Participants and those modifications will be an integral part of this Memorandum.

Paragraph 5 Dispute Settlement

In case of any disputes or divergence regarding the interpretation or application of the provisions of this Memorandum, the Participants will resolve them through negotiations and consultations.

Paragraph 6

Commencement, Duration, Termination and other matters

The cooperation under this Memorandum will commence on the date of its signature.

The cooperation will continue for a period of three years and may be extended by mutual written consent of both sides or terminated at any time by either Participant by giving a written notification at least six month prior to the date of the intended termination.

The termination of the cooperation will not affect the duration of any ongoing project or activity until the completion of such project or activity, unless the Participants decide otherwise.

This Memorandum will not affect any legal rights and obligations under international law.

The cooperation under this Memorandum is based on voluntary mutual resources. This Memorandum does not impose any financial or legal obligations on the Participants.

Signed on 23 December 2022, in two original copies, each in the English language.

For and on behalf of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan For and on behalf of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection

NISHIMURA Akihiro Minister Vladimir NOROV Minister