

Joint Declaration of Intent on Japanese – German Cooperation
of the Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy of Japan
and the Federal Minister of Education and Research
of the Federal Republic of Germany
on the Promotion of Research and Development
on Automated Driving Technologies

Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy Yosuke TSURUHO of Japan and Federal Minister of Education and Research Prof. Dr. Johanna WANKA of the Federal Republic of Germany have shared the views as follows and come to the understanding to make efforts in both Japan and Germany towards bilateral cooperation to promote the research and development (R&D) of automated driving technologies based on the discussions at the German - Japanese Joint Committee on Cooperation in Science and Technology held in Bonn, Germany from 30th November to 1st December 2016.

1. Automated Driving Systems come from achievements in science, research, technology and innovation, which have the potential to bring about reductions in road traffic accidents and provide new transport measures for all. Regarding R&D activities for Automated Driving Systems, it is important for both Japan and Germany to facilitate coordination and cooperation.

2. The Cabinet Office of Japan has been implementing a national R&D project on Automated Driving Systems under the Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program (SIP) to address common technological challenges among auto manufacturers and other stakeholders from both the public and private sectors. It is planning to start a large-scale Field Operational Test (FOT) on public roads and at test sites from September 2017.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany pursues its Strategy for Automated and Connected Driving launched in September 2015 in which R&D projects funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) are an important pillar. The BMBF works in close cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) which currently aims at establishing test areas in seven designated locations throughout Germany.

3. We share the understanding that it is indispensable for us to promote international cooperation, coordination and standardization activities. As a first step toward such efforts, the Cabinet Office of Japan has called for participation of German and other international experts in the above-mentioned FOT to be conducted in Japan. BMBF will communicate this invitation to the BMVI and the German research community.

4. In addition, the Cabinet Office of Japan and the BMBF will conduct consultation and coordination with relevant stakeholders including other responsible ministries and agencies to work out possible Japanese-German cooperation activities regarding R&D on automated driving technologies. The results will provide the base for a specific German-Japanese research collaboration with appropriate mutual funding. We will start first concrete talks on this topic within the first half-year of 2017.

5. Both Ministers will make efforts to enhance this bilateral cooperation under their respective leaderships.

Signed in Berlin, 12th of January, 2017

For the Cabinet Office of Japan

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

Yosuke TSURUHO

Prof. Dr. Johanna WANKA

Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy

Federal Minister of Education and Research