

Memorandum of Cooperation
on
quantum science and technology
between
The Cabinet Office of Japan
and
The Department of Science, Innovation and Technology of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Introduction

The Cabinet Office of Japan and The Department of Science, Innovation and Technology of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to individually as “Side” and collectively as “Sides”);

Recognising that Japan and the United Kingdom are both leaders in quantum science and technology and have strong and diversified science, technology and innovation relations, with extensive collaboration between academia, industry and government.

Reaffirming the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on Cooperation in Science and Technology signed in June 1994 (hereafter referred to as “the Agreement”) and the Hiroshima Accord: an enhanced Japan-UK Global Strategic Partnership announced in May 2023. The Hiroshima Accord underlines the importance of further collaboration between the two countries to maintain strategic advantage through the promotion of science, technology and innovation developments for our mutual economic prosperity and security, particularly in critical technologies such as quantum technologies.

Referring to Japan and the UK Joint Committee Meeting on Science and Technology Cooperation, which was established under the Agreement as an intergovernmental framework to exchange views on scientific and technological policy issues related to the effective implementation of the

Agreement and to review the cooperative activities and accomplishments.

Recognising that quantum science and technologies can lead to the development of transformative technologies such as quantum computing, solving problems beyond the world's most powerful supercomputers, or quantum sensing revolutionising sectors such as the green transition, logistics, life science, and medical research.

Acknowledging that cooperation between like-minded partners, grounded in shared principles such as transparency, accountability, and democratic ideals, is vital to support an equitable research environment and combine the expertise of our countries.

Recognising that the coming years will be critical for the emerging quantum industry, and that both Sides intend to support initiatives to accelerate research and development, commercialisation, and the overall growth of the quantum sector towards a trusted international ecosystem and supply chain.

Paragraph 1

The foregoing represents the recognitions reached between the Cabinet Office of Japan and the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the matters referred to therein.

The Sides have jointly decided to pursue cooperation in the following areas:

- **Dialogue on research and innovation:** Promoting dialogue between the Sides within all levels from fundamental research to applied research and innovation through relevant research bodies and research hubs – to share best practices and identify future opportunities in academic research collaboration, including but not limited to quantum computing, networking, and sensing;
- **Interactions, academia/private sector, and funding opportunities:** Facilitating interactions between academia and the private sector from both countries, e.g. by organising delegations to support the identification of possible avenues for collaboration;

- **Education, exchange, talent, and skills:** Exploring educational initiatives and exchange opportunities, at research and apprentice levels to build the talent and skills base needed for the further development of the quantum ecosystems and the workforce;
- **Security policy dialogue:** Recognising quantum technologies as emerging with implications for the societal resilience and national and economic security of both countries;
- **Standards and governance:** Fostering regular bilateral and multilateral discussions on governance policy issues including growing a trusted international research community, collaboration for a responsible use of quantum technology and standardisation;
- **Infrastructure, test-facilities, and missions:** Considering opportunities for shared access to research infrastructure and test-facilities for the purpose of strengthening research in use case development, and technological demonstration, validation, and maturation;
- **Commercialisation, use cases, and scale up:** Seeking to accelerate the commercialisation of quantum technologies by promoting promising innovations through use case development, demonstration projects, and similar initiatives aimed at advancing the development of practical market solutions; and
- **Private funding, industry, and institutional investors:** Facilitating efforts to increase the level of private funding and investment in the quantum sector by engaging with industry consortia and venture capital funds.

Paragraph 2

Commencement, duration, modification and discontinuation

2.1. This Memorandum of Cooperation is not legally binding and does not give rise to any rights or obligations under domestic or international law, nor does it preclude any new areas of cooperation as identified by the Sides.

2.2. The cooperation under this Memorandum of Cooperation will commence on the date of its signature by the Sides. Each Side may discontinue this Memorandum of Cooperation by giving written notice to

the other Side of the intention to discontinue three (3) months in advance.

2.3. This Memorandum of Cooperation may be modified at any time in writing by mutual consent of the Sides. Such modification will commence on the date mutually determined by the Sides and form an integral part of this Memorandum of Cooperation.

2.4. The discontinuation of this Memorandum of Cooperation will not affect the ongoing collaboration activities unless otherwise decided by the Sides.

Signed in London, United Kingdom with two (2) originals, on this day of 28th April 2025.

For the Cabinet Office of Japan

KIUCHI Minoru

Cabinet Office of Japan, Minister
of State for Science and
Technology Policy

For the Government of UK

Patrick VALLANCE

Minister of State for Science,
Research and Innovation