JOINT STATEMENT

On the occasion of the official visit of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, to Japan from February 25 to 26, 2014, Japan and the UAE welcomed the steady development of the bilateral cooperation and based on this visit issued the following Joint Statement:

"The concrete efforts for strengthening the comprehensive partnership between Japan and United Arab Emirates towards Stability and Prosperity"

- Based on the historic friendship relations and the excellent strategic partnership between the two countries, Japan and the United Arab Emirates expressed their intention to further strengthen the comprehensive partnership in the political, economic and cultural fields to reflect the direction and objectives of leaders in both countries with the view of achieving the common goals and the interests of the two friendly peoples through the following guidelines:

Political Cooperation:

- Both sides welcomed the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation on Improving the Work of a Joint Committee for Cooperation between Japan and the United Arab Emirates, and expressed their intention to promote policy coordination on a wide range of issues between the two countries utilizing the Joint Committee.

Security cooperation:

- His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces welcomed Japan's determination to even more proactively contribute to peace and stability in the world, including the Middle East from the prospective of the policy of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation and both sides decided to work together for the common goals, such as maritime security including the safety of the sea lanes of communications, counter-piracy, non-proliferation, anti-terrorism, and disaster relief.

Defense Cooperation:

- Both sides acknowledged the importance of further exchange of defense cooperation and welcomed visits exchange between senior defense officials.

Economic Cooperation:

The two sides welcomed the excellent cooperation in the field of oil supply, exploration and production, as well as cooperation in research, development and refining. Both sides emphasized the importance of a long-term partnership between Japan and the United Arab Emirates regarding oil development cooperation, and welcomed that a mutually complementary relationship in oil development has advanced through such measures as technological collaboration, training programs, financial cooperation and refining cooperation. In this view, they decided to expand the capacity of the Joint Oil Stockpiling up to one million kiloliter, and welcomed the launching of negotiation on the mutual investment agreement in 2014, and the steady progress in the procedures in both countries towards the conclusion of the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United Arab Emirates for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy and the Convention between Japan and the United Arab Emirates for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income. The two sides welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, for the purpose of promoting cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, namely, in areas such as human capacity building, safety enhancement and emergency preparedness based on lessons learned from the Tokyo Electric Power Company's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Accident. The two sides also welcomed the signing of Memorandums of Cooperation between JCCME and Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry and between JCCME and Abu Dhabi Quality and Conformity Council and a Memorandum of Understanding between Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company PJSC (Masdar) on the cooperation for environment-friendly projects, and the establishment of a new credit line by Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI), and acknowledged the importance of mutual support in the finance sector and welcomed Japan's mission to Abu Dhabi to explain its economy policy and investment opportunities. They also welcomed the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding between Khalifa Fund and the Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation on the promotion of ongoing cooperation between the two sides.

Aviation Cooperation:

- The two sides welcomed the Exchanges of Notes on the new Schedule to the Agreement between the United Arab Emirates and Japan for Air Services, and recalled that the Emirates Airline has started daily direct flights between Dubai and Tokyo international Airport (Haneda) since June 2013 and expressed their expectations that these flights will further contribute to the exchanges between the two friendly peoples.

Consular Cooperation:

- The United Arab Emirates welcomed that since last October, the Government of Japan has begun issuing three-year multiple entry visas to UAE nationals who stay in Japan for up to 90 days per visit for the purpose of business, sight-seeing and recreation. Upon a request from the United Arab Emirates, Japan decided to study on whether to waive visas for UAE ordinary passport holders reviewing the implementation of issuing multiple entry visas.

Food Imports:

- The two sides expressed their intention to continue discussion to ease and lift the restriction on the imports of Japanese food put in place after the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011.

Education and Scientific Cooperation:

Both sides expressed their expectation to such cooperation in the cultural and educational fields in a way that will fulfill the interests of the peoples of both countries and welcomed the tangible progress and the fact that the Government of Japan has opened an office in Abu Dhabi Education Council. The two sides also welcomed the Memorandum of Understanding between Tokyo University, the Petroleum Institute and the Research Center Abu Dhabi on the establishment of frameworks of joint research studies, and both sides expressed their expectation to further deepening such academic cooperation. For the purpose of strengthening the youth and students exchanges, Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to invite UAE's elementary to high school students to Japan and to promote sports cooperation including Judo.

Medical Cooperation:

The two sides affirmed the importance of cooperation in the medical field, where Prime Minister Abe stated that Japan will start by the end of 2014 receiving UAE patients in the advanced medical institution in Japan, and that an exclusive service desk will be established for them. His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces welcomed that and expressed his expectation to accelerate its domestic procedures to that end.

Environment Cooperation:

- The two sides affirmed the importance of expertise exchanges between the two countries and welcome the dispatch of technical experts from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to Abu Dhabi and Dubai with the view of discussing the technical assistance in the fields of waste management, aquaculture and fisheries.

Humanitarian and Development Cooperation:

The two sides welcomed the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Ministry of International Cooperation and Development of the UAE for promotion of cooperation and understanding in the fields of humanitarian aid and international development.

The Sport field Cooperation:

The two sides affirmed the development of the sport fields through the initiative of Prime Minister Abe "Sport for Tomorrow" together with the United Arab Emirates towards the success of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.