MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN E SLOVAK OFFICE OF STANDARDS, METRO

THE SLOVAK OFFICE OF STANDARDS, METROLOGY AND TESTING

AND

THE STATE ADMINISTRATION FOR MARKET REGULATION (NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION ADMINISTRATION) OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (SAMR/SAC) ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF STANDARDIZATION

The Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing (UNMS SR) and the State Administration for Market Regulation (National Standardization Administration) of the People's Republic of China (SAMR/SAC) (hereinafter referred to individually as a "Participant" and collectively as "Participants").

Upon the common desire of the Participants, to promote mutual interests through cooperation in the field of standardization, based on equality and mutual benefit,

Considering the obligations of the Slovak Republic arising from its participation in the European Union,

In recognition that such cooperation is important in promoting technical innovation, facilitating bilateral economy and trade, supporting sustainable development and enhancing friendly relations between the Participants,

Taking into account the functions of the Participants,

The Participants have reached the following understanding:

SECTION 1 OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter "MoU") is to establish and develop cooperation in standardization on the basis of equality and mutual benefit between the Participants, subject to the laws, rules, regulations and national policies in force in their

respective countries, to promote harmonization of standards and reduce technical barriers to trade.

SECTION 2

CONTENT OF COOPERATION

In compliance with respective legislations of the Participants, the Participants will collaborate in the following areas:

- 1. Cooperation in the field of international standardization to exchange information, share experience and support each other within the framework of international standard organizations such as ISO and IEC;
- 2. Participation in the other Participant's activities based on the proposal of one Participant and common desire;
- 3. Carry out other standardization activities based on common interest or the proposal of one Participant, including but not limited to international standardization activities in climate change, digital technology, and sustainable development;
- 4. Cooperation on promotion of standardization capability, including but not limited to cooperation on standardization education and young professional programmes.

SECTION 3

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- 1. Share general information, policy documents, methodology of developing publications and normative documents and experience in the field of standardization;
- 2. Exchange regularly bibliographies of national (homegrown) standards;
- 3. Share information about availability of Participant's standards and Participant's eshop;
- 4. Make full use of the standard information resources of the Participants to contribute to the Standard Information Platform Contributed by the Belt and Road Countries. Share standard information of the Belt and Road countries and provide services to stakeholders through the platform (Link: http://www.ydylstandards.org.cn/en/Init).

SECTION 4

FORMS OF COOPERATION

- 1. Hold high-level or bilateral meetings in due course to discuss possible action plans and cooperation projects in the future;
- 2. Organize standardization workshops in specific fields and conduct academic exchanges as needed:
- 3. Collaborate on the promotion and application of standards;
- 4. Promote exchanges in standardization personnel between Slovakia and China;
- 5. Carry out bilateral training cooperation in due course.

SECTION 5

DESIGNATION OF CONTACT

The Participants will respectively exchange the names and contact details of the persons in charge of keeping in contact with each other, and when necessary, holding meetings to exchange ideas on issues of mutual interest. The Participants will notify each other in case of any changes regarding the contact persons. Daily work will be conducted through email.

SECTION 6

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT

All commitments made in this MoU are subject to the availability of funds and each Participant's budget priorities. This MoU is non-binding in financial terms. Unless otherwise agreed in writing in advance, each Participant will bear the cost incurred by itself in carrying out the cooperation under this MoU.

SECTION 7

CONFIDENTIALITY

1. The Participants shall maintain the confidentiality of all received documents and information, as well as scientific and technical results obtained within the framework of the MoU.

2. Information received by a Participant in the course of cooperation under the MoU shall only be transferred to a third Party with the consent of the Participant that provided it.

SECTION 8

OTHER PROVISIONS

This MoU is not legally binding. It does not constitute any rights or legal obligations. However, the Participants shall comply with the provisions concerning Section 7 (Confidentiality) and Section 9 (Resolution of Disputes) under any circumstances. This MoU does not affect the rights and obligations of the Participants acquired under any agreements or memorandums in which the Participants are involved.

SECTION 9

RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

This MoU is not an international treaty and does not create rights and obligations regulated by international law. Any disputes connected with the interpretation and implementation of the provisions of this MoU will be settled amicably by mutual consultations and negotiations between the Participants.

SECTION 10

REVISION, MODIFICATION AND AMENDMENT

By mutual consent of the Participants, amendments and supplements may be made to the present MoU in the form of separate articles, which shall serve as an integral part of this MoU.

ARTICLE 11

ENTRY INTO EFFECT, DURATION AND TERMINATION

This MoU will come into effect as of the date of its signature. This MoU will remain in force for 5 (five) years and automatically extends to next 5 (five) years unless one Participant notifies the other Participant in writing of their wish to terminate this MoU. Either

Participant may terminate this MoU by giving at least 6 (six) months' prior written notice to the other Participant. The termination of this MoU will not affect the validity or duration of projects under the MoU that are initiated prior to such termination.

The MoU is signed in Beijing on 1 November 2024 with two original copies each in Slovak language, Chinese and English, and all texts have equal effect. In case of any dispute or divergence in interpretation of the MoU, the English text shall prevail.

On behalf of
The Slovak Office of Standards,
Metrology and Testing (UNMS SR)

On behalf of
The State Administration for Market Regulation
(National Standardization Administration)
of the People's Republic of China
(SAMR/SAC)

Signed by:

Signed by: