

November 10, 2023
SBI Holdings, Inc.

Notice Regarding Memorandum of Understanding for Business Alliance with King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology

SBI Holdings, Inc. (Head office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, Chairman, President and CEO, Yoshitaka Kitao; hereinafter “the Company”) hereby announces that it has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter “the MoU”) for a business alliance with King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (Head Office: Saudi Arabia; President: Dr. Munir M. Eldesouki; hereinafter “KACST”).

KACST is a prominent national research institute in Saudi Arabia, with a number of laboratories, research and development centers. KACST has the goal of becoming a pioneer organization in science and technology by supporting innovation and pursuing scientific research that promotes industrial development in Saudi Arabia, and focuses on research and development in a wide range of fields, including environment, energy, and medicine, in collaboration with organizations in Saudi Arabia and abroad to promote innovation.

Based on the MoU, the SBI Group and KACST will consider a business alliance in the areas described below.

1. Cooperation and investment in the field of semiconductors in Japan and Saudi Arabia
2. Development of biotechnological solutions and ethical drugs centered around products using 5-Aminolevulinic Acid (5-ALA)
3. Promotion of innovative banking solutions utilizing digital technology and fintech.
4. Development of human resources exchange programs targeted to nurture talent in the field of semiconductor, fintech, and biotechnology.
5. Support of startups with cutting-edge technology and entrepreneurs in the fields such as semiconductor, fintech, and biotechnology.

The scope of the alliance will not be limited and may be expanded upon agreement between the Company and KACST.

The Company has jointly established investment funds with major local partners as well as expanded 5-ALA related businesses in the Middle East in the past. However, through the partnership with KACST, the Company will further pursue business opportunities and contribute to the cooperation in the economic field between Japan and Saudi Arabia.

Overview of King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology

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| (1) Name | King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology |
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| (2) Location | Saudi Arabia |
| (3) Representative | President, Dr. Munir M. Eldesouki |
| (4) Business description | Research and development |
| (5) Year of establishment | 1977 (Changed to current name in 1985) |
| (6) URL | https://kacst.gov.sa/ |

For further information, please contact:

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