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To whom it may concern,

Company name:	Takara Holdings Inc.
Company representative:	Mutsumi Kimura, President
Securities code and stock exchange listings:	2531 Tokyo (Prime section)
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Notice Regarding Investment in Startup Fermentation Co., Ltd.

Takara Holdings Inc. hereby announces that it has invested in Fermentation Co., Ltd. (“Fermentation”) by subscribing to part of third-party allotment of shares by Fermentation, a company that develops sustainable products using its own unique fermentation and distillation technologies.

1. Overview of Fermentation

Fermentation is a biomanufacturing*1 startup that seeks to create a society where unused resources (substandard agricultural produce, production residue, etc.) are regenerated and circulated, in line with its purpose of “Fermenting a Renewable Society.” With a license for industrial alcohol, Fermentation engages in the development and in-house manufacturing of sustainable alcohol and cosmetic ingredients, among others.

2. Reason for investment

Finding a resonance between Fermentation’s purpose and the Takara Group’s corporate philosophy of “Contributing to the creation of a vital society and a healthy lifestyle through our fermentation technology and biotechnology in a way that achieves harmony with nature,” we decided to make this investment.

As part of our efforts to solve social issues through our business (products and services) under the Takara Group Medium-Term Management Plan for 2025, we are working on initiatives such as Takara Can Chu-Hi “Sumika,” a product prepared using Japan-produced fruits including their pericarp, seeds and other parts that are usually thrown away after squeezing the juice, and “Takara CRAFT,” a product that features ingredients from around Japan that are unique to each locality and thereby contributes to the revitalization of local communities.

The investment in and cooperation with Fermentation will help us further advance our sustainability efforts by enabling us to develop products containing sustainable alcohol made from upcycled*2 unused resources such as residues from fruit juice processing that had to be disposed of with the existing technology and thereby allowing us to solve social issues through the value we provide with such alcohol.

The Takara Group will work towards achieving the Group’s Vision, “Smiles in Life” through a variety of cooperative projects with Fermentation.

*1 Production of materials by cells of microorganisms, plants, etc.

*2 The process of transforming goods that are no longer needed into new products while retaining their original form.

3. Overview of Fermentation

(1) Name	Fermentation Co., Ltd.
(2) Location	2-20-2 Higashikomagata, Sumida, Tokyo, Japan
(3) Representative	Lina Sakai Watanabe, CEO
(4) Business	Provision and development of alcohol and other raw materials for cosmetics, home care goods and foodstuff, OEM/ODM cosmetics and home care goods, business creation utilizing unused resources, original organic clean beauty brand, etc.
(5) Established	July 7, 2009

4. Overview of Takara Holdings Inc.

(1) Name	Takara Holdings Inc.
(2) Location	20 Naginataboko-cho, Shijo-dori Karasuma Higashi-iru, Shimogyo-ku, Kyoto, Japan
(3) Representative	Mutsumi Kimura, President
(4) Core business company	Takara Shuzo Co., Ltd. Takara Shuzo International Co., Ltd. Takara Bio Inc.
(5) Established	September 6, 1925

Forward - Looking Statements

Statements in this document, other than those based on historical fact, concerning the current plans, prospects, strategies and expectations of the Company and its Group represent forecasts of future results. While such statements are based on the conclusions of management according to information available at the time of writing, they reflect many assumptions and opinions derived from information that includes major risks and uncertainties. Actual results may vary significantly from these forecasts due to various factors. Factors that could influence actual results include, but are not limited to, economic conditions, especially trends in consumer spending, as well as exchange rate fluctuations, changes in laws and government systems, pressure from competitors' prices and product strategies, declines in selling power of the Company's existing and new products, disruptions to production, violations of the Company's intellectual property rights, rapid advances in technology and unfavorable verdicts in major litigation