

## THE CENTRAL DEPOSITORY OF BELARUS EXPANDS INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

On August 30, 2023, the Republican Unitary Enterprise “Republican Central Securities Depository” (Republic of Belarus) and the State Enterprise “Central Securities Depository” (Republic of Uzbekistan), as part of expanding cooperation in the Eurasian space, signed Memorandum of Understanding and Information Exchange Agreement.

These documents define the information basis for cooperation between the central depositories of Belarus and Uzbekistan on issues of storage and accounting of securities, and settlement on securities.

The parties expect that these agreements will serve as the beginning of practical interaction between the central depositories of the two countries in the development of cross-border settlement and depository activities.

*For reference. The state enterprise “Central Securities Depository” (Republic of Uzbekistan) has been the largest institution of the stock market of Uzbekistan for more than 20 years. As of September 1, 2023, the Uzbek central depository records rights to securities owned by 53 investment intermediaries and more than 600 thousand of their clients. 2 105 issues of shares and bonds of 647 issuers worth more than 180,000 billion UZS are under the centralized custody in the Central Depository of Uzbekistan. Performing the function of the National Numbering Agency in the Republic of Uzbekistan, it assigns international codes to securities of Uzbek issuers.*

*RUE “Republican Central Securities Depository” was founded in 1995 and provides services to correspondent securities accounts of more than 30 depositories (including non-resident depositories) and more than 21,000 depositors` accounts. About 100 thousand depository operations are carried out annually, the total volume of securities under the centralized custody is at the level of 85 - 90 billion BYN. The Belarusian central depository, being the National Numbering Agency in the Republic of Belarus, is authorized to assign international codes to securities and digital financial assets of Belarusian issuers.*