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(TSE Prime Market, Code: 9449)

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### **Notice Regarding Preparation for Stock Listing of a Consolidated Subsidiary Engaged in Cybersecurity Business(GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae, Inc.)**

GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae, Inc. ("GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae"), a consolidated subsidiary of the GMO Internet Group, Inc. (the "Company") engaged in cybersecurity business, has today decided to prepare for a stock listing on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. We hereby announce this decision as described below.

#### 1. GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae's Listing Preparation

GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae operates under the purpose of "Transforming our conviction to help people into the power to protect," and leverages its strength as Japan's largest organization of white hat hackers to provide cybersecurity services including vulnerability assessments of web applications and IoT devices, and penetration testing. Since joining the GMO Internet Group (the "Group") in 2022, GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae has been promoting a synergy strategy to "systematize and productize" its advanced technical capabilities and provide them widely through the customer base and marketing expertise of the Group's Internet Infrastructure business. As a result, by incorporating these capabilities into products such as the security automatic assessment tool "GMO Cyberattack Net Assessment," GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae has realized the widespread adoption of affordable and high-quality security measures and steadily strengthened its business foundation.

In recent years, cyberattack methods have become increasingly sophisticated and cunning, with their frequency intensifying relentlessly. Attack targets have diversified, with an increasing number of cases targeting not only corporate activities but also critical infrastructure, and threats have expanded to a level that threatens the very foundation of society. Additionally, the era of physical AI - AI and robotics where AI possesses physicality and operates in the real world - is now upon us, with technology implementation advancing across society. Accordingly, areas requiring protection have expanded beyond web space to include IoT devices and automobiles operating in the real world, as well as physical penetration countermeasures for facilities such as data centers themselves, with risks reaching levels that affect national security. Such countermeasures have become an urgent issue for business continuity and the realization of a safe nation and society.

In this business environment, GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae aims to contribute to raising Japan's overall cybersecurity level and become the industry's leading company. To achieve this, GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae has decided to proceed with preparations for a stock listing on the Tokyo Stock Exchange to strengthen its fundraising capacity and further enhance its recognition and social credibility. By securing excellent human resources via the stock listing and strengthening management capabilities through continuous dialogue with the stock market, GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae aims to enhance its corporate value and contribute to the strengthening of Japan's cybersecurity.

Currently, the Group is promoting the "Internet Security for Everyone by GMO" project with its full group capabilities under the banner of "A Safe Future for Everyone." The stock listing of GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae, as the core of this group strategy, fundamentally supports the safety of the "AI & Robotics" domain that the entire Group is promoting and holds extremely important significance for realizing the sustainable growth and enhancement of corporate value of the entire Group. Therefore, in preparing for the listing, it is premised that GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae will continue to be a consolidated subsidiary of the Company.

Please note that the stock listing is subject to approval by relevant authorities. Depending on the results of examinations during the listing preparation process, there is a possibility that the stock listing may be postponed or that a decision may be reached not to proceed with the listing. Therefore, the timing of the listing, the listing market and other details are undecided at this time. We will promptly disclose any matters requiring disclosure as the listing preparation progresses.

## 2. Our Policy on Subsidiary Listings

In order to continue winning in the rapidly changing Internet market, the Group has established "distribution of authority" and "maximization of group-wide synergies" as the fundamental policies of group management. Based on this policy, the Group, which is a collective of entrepreneurs, aims to function as a platform that supports the growth of companies with excellent ideas by creating business synergies through strong connections between group companies based on sharing and thorough implementation of common value foundations centered on GMO-isms, while maximizing the use of the unified "GMO" group brand and maintaining the management autonomy of each company.

Under such fundamental concepts of group management, the Group positions group company listings as one of its important growth strategies. The Group's listing strategy includes multiple approaches, and one of them is the practice of a growth model called "Swing-by IPO," in which startup companies accelerate their growth by utilizing the management resources of large corporate groups and then aim for listing. Since the listing of GMO Payment Gateway, Inc. on the Mothers market in 2005, the Group has realized multiple listings, and GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae is one such example. Additionally, the Group promotes internally nurtured listings, where businesses are developed within the Group and guided to listing. By listing, each company aims to enhance recognition and social credibility, secure excellent human resources, and strengthen management capabilities through continuous dialogue with the stock market, thereby achieving the provision of No.1 services, improving customer satisfaction and generating profits, enhancing the Group corporate value, and ultimately providing appropriate returns to minority shareholders.

Regarding the listing of group companies and changes in market segments, based on the above fundamental policies, decisions are left to the discretion of each company. The decision-making process for GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae's listing preparation follows the same approach.

At present, there are no matters that have been decided regarding the listing of group companies other than subsidiaries that have already announced listing preparations.

Note: This press release is not prepared with the aim of soliciting investments or similar activities within or outside Japan. In addition, this press release does not constitute an offer of securities in the United States. The GMO Cybersecurity by Ierae's securities shall not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended or with an applicable exemption from registration requirements. Any public offering of securities to be made in the United States will be made by means of a prospectus prepared in accordance with the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended. No public offering of securities will be made in the United States in connection with this matter.