FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Notice Regarding Selection as a Constituent of the JPX Start-Up Acceleration 100 Index

-Recognized as one of Japan's leading high-growth startups, highlighting the future potential of its iPSC-based cardiac regenerative therapy

TOKYO, JAPAN, February 16, 2026 - Heartseed Inc. (Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo; CEO: Keiichi Fukuda; hereinafter referred to as "Heartseed") is pleased to announce that it has been selected as a constituent of the "JPX Start-Up Acceleration 100 Index," a stock price index newly calculated by JPX Market Innovation & Research, Inc.

■ Background of the selection to the "JPX Start-Up Acceleration 100 Index"

The "JPX Start-Up Acceleration 100 Index" has been established with the aim of further developing Japan's startup ecosystem. It selects 100 leading high-growth startups representing Japan from among companies listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange Growth Market and those that have undergone a market change from it, based on strict growth criteria such as sales growth rate and market capitalization growth rate.

Heartseed's cardiac remuscularization therapy using iPS cells, which the Company is advancing toward commercialization, is expected to provide a new therapeutic option for patients with heart failure. We recognize this selection as an objective evaluation of our company's business progress to date, reflecting market expectations for future growth potential as demonstrated by developments in market capitalization.

■ Overview of the "JPX Start-Up Acceleration 100 Index"

The index is a market capitalization-weighted stock price index, with real-time calculation and distribution scheduled to commence on March 9, 2026.

For further details regarding the index calculation methodology and constituent issues, please refer to the news release issued by Japan Exchange Group, Inc:

https://www.jpx.co.jp/corporate/news/news-releases/0060/20260213-01.html

About Heartseed

Heartseed Inc. was founded with the aim of realizing cardiac remuscularization therapy, and it was listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange Growth Market in July 2024 (Stock Code: 219A). Heartseed has proprietary technologies throughout the entire manufacturing process of the cardiomyocyte cell product, including purification, cell delivery and iPSC production.

To date, the Company has received numerous awards in Japan and internationally, including the Japan Venture Awards 2021 (Minister of Science and Technology Policy Award), the University Venture Awards 2021 (Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Award), the Asia-Pacific Cell & Gene Therapy Excellence Awards (Most Promising Pipelines Award), the IP BASE AWARD (Startup Category Grand Prize) presented by the Japan Patent Office, the 7th Japan Medical Research and Development Award – Startup Award (January 2025), and the Intellectual Property Achievement Award – Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Award (April 2025).

For more information, visit heartseed.jp, LinkedIn and YouTube.

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