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**Committee on the Peaceful****Uses of Outer Space****Legal Subcommittee****Fifty-eighth session**

Vienna, 1–12 April 2019

Item 11 of the provisional agenda\*

**General exchange of information on non-legally binding****United Nations instruments on outer space****Compendium on mechanisms adopted in relation to  
non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer  
space****Submission by Japan**

*Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries (Space Benefit Declaration)*

**National mechanism(s):**

1. Basic Plan for Space Policy
2. Medium to Long Term Goal for JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency)

**Description:**

1. Basic Plan for Space Policy
  - (1) The type of national mechanism

A comprehensive space policy of Japan is created pursuant to Article 24 of the Basic Space Act (Act No. 43, 2008)
  - (2) Description
    - Basic Space Plan, as a comprehensive space policy of Japan made pursuant to Article 24 of the Basic Space Act (Act No. 43, 2008) was made three times, 2009, 2013 and 2015 respectively. The current and the third Basic Space Plan contains, like its two predecessors, the section referring to the promotion of international cooperation of Japan's space activities, which can be construed as Japan's implementation of non-legally binding instrument of the 1996 Space Benefit Declaration. Some of the items referred to in the Space Basic Plan in 2015 include:
      - To regularly hold governmental space dialogues between Japan and the US, France, EU and more;
      - To contribute to enhancing space capabilities of developing countries to address their development goals by utilizing Japan's space technology in cooperation with relevant international organizations such as the World Bank;

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\* A/AC.105/C.2/L.308.



- To actively participate in International Space Exploration Forum (ISEF);
  - To take measures to jointly develop satellites, engage in hosted payload programs, joint utilization of space-based data for solving various human security issues including energy shortage, climate change, disaster mitigation, etc.; and
  - To promote cooperation for science and technology as well as nurturing human resources projects.
- Emphasis is focused on Asia-Pacific space cooperation through Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF) and other ASEAN-related mechanisms and institutions. Cooperation between Japan and ASEAN regions should be enhanced to contribute regional development of ASEAN.

(3) Management and supervision

Cabinet Office

(4) Authority in charge

Cabinet Office

2. Medium to Long Term Goal for JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency)

(1) The type of national mechanism

In Japan, the competent ministers formulate the Medium to Long-term Objectives concerning the running of the operations based on Article 35-4 of Act on General Rules for Incorporated Administrative Agency and Article 19 of the Law concerning Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency and direct the Agency accordingly.

(2) Description

The Objectives of “Medium to Long Term Goal for JAXA” state as follows:

- Satellite remote-sensing
  - JAXA will provide satellite data to organizations abroad, thereby contributing to the creation of a mutually supportive and mutually beneficial relationship with organizations abroad and reduce disasters damages overseas.
  - Furthermore, as regard programs to counter climate change as a solution to the planetary scale issues, JAXA will provide satellite data relating to climate change that will make more contributions to these programs for both users in Japan and overseas, and promote international cooperation and cooperate on programs to counter climate change based on government policies, in order to get everybody to see satellite data as a decision index and evaluation parameter for our activities to counter climate change.
- International Space Station
  - Through the operation of KIBO and KOUNOTORI and activities conducted by Japanese astronauts, JAXA will continue to play a pivotal role on the ISS and will also extend ISS utilization opportunities to countries from overseas.
- Promotion of international cooperation and development overseas
  - JAXA will make contributions to grow the utilization of space by and the size of the space market in, inter alia, countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) by communicating a message in Japan and overseas about the utility of our space utilization and space related technologies through active liaising with each country’s space agency and each country’s agency utilizing space or international organization. Furthermore, JAXA will make contributions to the works above by training personnel who will build and maintain a relationship with Japan that is mutually beneficial.
  - In addition, JAXA will make contributions to promote an international discussion on issues of law and ordinance relating to the continued and

peaceful utilization of space at, inter alia, the United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS).

(3) Management and supervision

- The competent ministers shall refer to the Basic Plan for Space Policy when formulating the Objectives. (Article 19, Law Concerning Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency)
- JAXA shall prepare Medium to Long-term plan based on the Objectives and shall obtain the permission of the competent ministers. (Article 35-5, Act on General Rules for Incorporated Administrative Agency)
- JAXA shall formulate an annual plan and shall submit it to the competent ministers. (Article 35-8, Act on General Rules for Incorporated Administrative Agency)
- JAXA shall undergo a review by the competent ministers at the end of fiscal year and the expiration of the goal period. (Article 35-6, Act on General Rules for Incorporated Administrative Agency)

(4) Authority in charge

- Competent ministries

**References:**

1. Basic Plan for Space Policy (Japanese only)  
<https://www8.cao.go.jp/space/plan/keikaku.html>
2. Medium to Long Term Goal for JAXA (Japanese only)  
[http://www.jaxa.jp/about/plan/index\\_j.html](http://www.jaxa.jp/about/plan/index_j.html)

*Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space*

There is no national mechanism as Japan does not use nuclear power source in outer space.

*Resolution 1721 B (XVI) of 20 December 1961 ((registration of launchings)  
International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space)*

**National mechanism(s):**

1. Act on Launching of Spacecraft, etc. and Control of Spacecraft (Act No. 76 of 2016)

**Description:**

1. Act on Launching of Spacecraft, etc. and Control of Spacecraft (Act No. 76 of 2016)
  - (1) The type of national mechanism
    - (a) National legislation
  - (2) Description
 

To implement United Nations treaties on outer space accurately and smoothly, to ensure public safety, and to contribute to enhancing livelihood of people and development of economic society, Japan established a system for permission for launch a launch vehicle and control of spacecraft and compensation scheme for damage of third party caused by launching a launch vehicle.
  - (3) Management and supervision
 

The Cabinet Office
  - (4) Authority in charge
 

The Cabinet Office

**Reference:**

1. <https://www8.cao.go.jp/space/english/index-e.html>

*Other non-legally binding instruments on outer space  
Planetary Protection Panel (PPP)*

**National mechanism(s):**

1. JAXA internal regulation
2. JAXA standard “the Planetary Protection Program Standards (JMR-014)”

**Description:**

COSPAR maintains and promulgates this COSPAR Planetary Protection Policy (hereinafter referred to as the “Policy”), both as an international standard on procedures to avoid organic-constituent and biological contamination in space exploration, and to provide accepted guidelines in this area to guide compliance with article IX of the Outer Space Treaty and other relevant international agreements.

JAXA has been undertaking several deep space exploration missions so far by applying the spacecraft design standards in each mission individually pursuant to the Policy, and also get the international consensus in the COSPAR Planetary Protection Panel. On the other hand, taking into consideration of the evolution of future international space exploration missions for the Moon, Mars and so on, which will require JAXA to apply a number of spacecraft standards designs necessary for planetary protection, JAXA decided to develop the new internal regulation and unified standard.

1. JAXA internal regulation

JAXA developed the internal regulation on planetary protection which came into force as of 1 January 2019. This regulation stipulates the basic policy of JAXA’s planetary protection measures, definitions and the principal task of responsible organization (Safety and Mission Assurance Department) in JAXA which includes the formulation of the standards, review and external relations. Especially, this regulation determines the assignment of “Planetary Protection Officer (PPO)” in this Department.

2. JAXA standard “the Planetary Protection Program Standards (JMR-014)”

Secondly, JAXA formulated the new standard “the Planetary Protection Program Standards (JMR-014)” as of February 21, 2019, in consistent with the Policy. This policy determines JAXA’s planetary protection requirements, which mainly include the following:

- (1) Requirements on administrative aspects for Planetary Protection
- (2) Requirements on technical aspects for Planetary Protection (both forward and backward contamination)
- (3) Requirements on procedure aspects for Planetary Protection
- (4) Definitions of Requirements on Documents (DRD) and the relationship with each review
- (5) This Standards apply to: (i) JAXA’s spaceflight mission, (ii) participation in JAXA’s spaceflight mission and (iii) JAXA’s participation in the spaceflight mission hosted by other organizations.

**Reference:**

- Japan submits this “JAXA’s current implementation of Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) Planetary Protection Policy” in response to the Note Verbal from the Secretary-General of the United Nations dated 9 October 2018 (Ref.: CU2018/431(A)/OOSA/CPLA) in connection with Agenda Item 11 of the 58th Session of the Legal Subcommittee: General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space.
- This Standards are publicly accessible in JAXA’s website (currently, Japanese only). <http://sma.jaxa.jp/TechDoc/Docs/JAXA-JMR-014.pdf>