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ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL
SPACE AGENCY FORUM

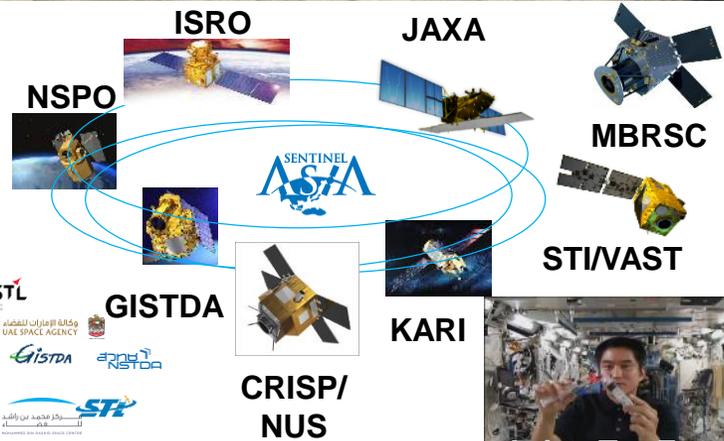
APRSAF's Initiatives for Enhancing Space Policy and Law Capacity in the Asia-Pacific Region

Ikuko Kuriyama, Ph.D.
International Relations and Research Department, JAXA
Coordinator, NSLI

Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF)



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APRSAF's New Effort: Space Policy Community Building in the Asia-Pacific Region

- ❑ Responding to growing interest in space policy and law in the region
- ❑ APRSAF provides various opportunities for information sharing and networking among space policy experts:
 - ✓ Space Policy Plenary Session
 - ✓ Inter-Regional Space Policy Dialogue between Asia-Pacific and Europe (co-organized: APRSAF & ESPI)
 - ✓ Space Policy Practitioners Workshop



Launched in 2017



Initiated policy dialogue with Europe in 2018



Strengthening the networking among practitioners



Active discussions & networking at various levels

National Space Legislation Initiative (NSLI): The First Joint Activity among Space Law Practitioners in the Region

- ❑ Launched at the APRSAF-26, held in Nagoya, Japan in 2019
- ❑ The first APRSAF initiative dedicated to space policy and law
- ❑ Implementation of “APRSF Nagoya Vision”



NSLI's Goals : Mutual Learning & Capacity Building for establishing National Space Legislations



- Membership:

Open to national governmental organizations in the Asia-Pacific Countries

- Two Objectives:

Promote information sharing and mutual learning on national space legislations & policies in the Asia-Pacific region



Enhance capacity to draft and implement national space legislations & policies in the Asia-Pacific countries in accordance with international norms

- Main Task:

Jointly draft a report on the status of national space legislations of NSLI members for the submission to UNCOPUOS LSC in 2021

Study Group: Space Policy and Law Practitioners from 9 Asia-Pacific Countries



- More than **40** members from **17** national governmental organizations:
Australia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Viet Nam
(*Member list: A/AC.105/C.2/2021/CRP.7)

- Co-chairs:

Prof. Setsuko Aoki,
Professor, Keio University Law
School, Japan



Dr. Dao Ngoc Chien,
Deputy Director General, Department of High
Technology, Ministry of Science and
Technology (MOST), Viet Nam

- Secretariat: 

- Holds monthly teleconferences



NSLI's work is based on a UNGA Resolution: “Recommendations on National Space Legislation”

Recommendations on National Legislation relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space (A/RES/68/74), 2013



Scope of
Space Activities



National
Jurisdiction



Authorization by
National
Authority



Consistency with
international
obligations



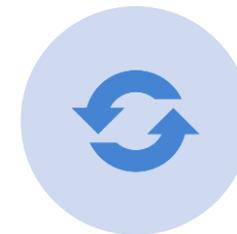
Continuing supervision
and monitoring of
authorized space activities



Registration of
launch objects



Liability of
damage



Transfer of
ownership

The report is the first joint contribution from the Asia-Pacific countries to the LSC



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- ❑ The report was jointly submitted to the LSC by the 9 NSLI participating States as a working paper (A/AC.105/C.2/L.318).
- ❑ Main Contents :
 - ◆ Introduction
 - ◆ Overview of Space Activities
 - ◆ Ratification Status regarding the International Regime
 - ◆ National Legal Scheme relating to Space Activities
 - ◆ Findings:
 - Space activities and actor status
 - National space legislation status
 - NSLI's significance and implications

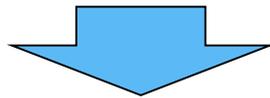


Report image



Main Findings #1: Expansion of space activities and actors in the NSLI States makes national space legislation more important

- ◆ Recent rapid growth of space activities
- ◆ National space agencies:
Established in most States
- ◆ Expanding activities of non-governmental entities



- ◆ Establishment of national space legislation

Newly established space agencies and centers (2017-)

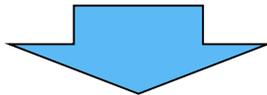


*Malaysian Space Agency was formed through merging of ANGKASA (former space agency in Malaysia, established in 2002) and Malaysian Remote Sensing Agency

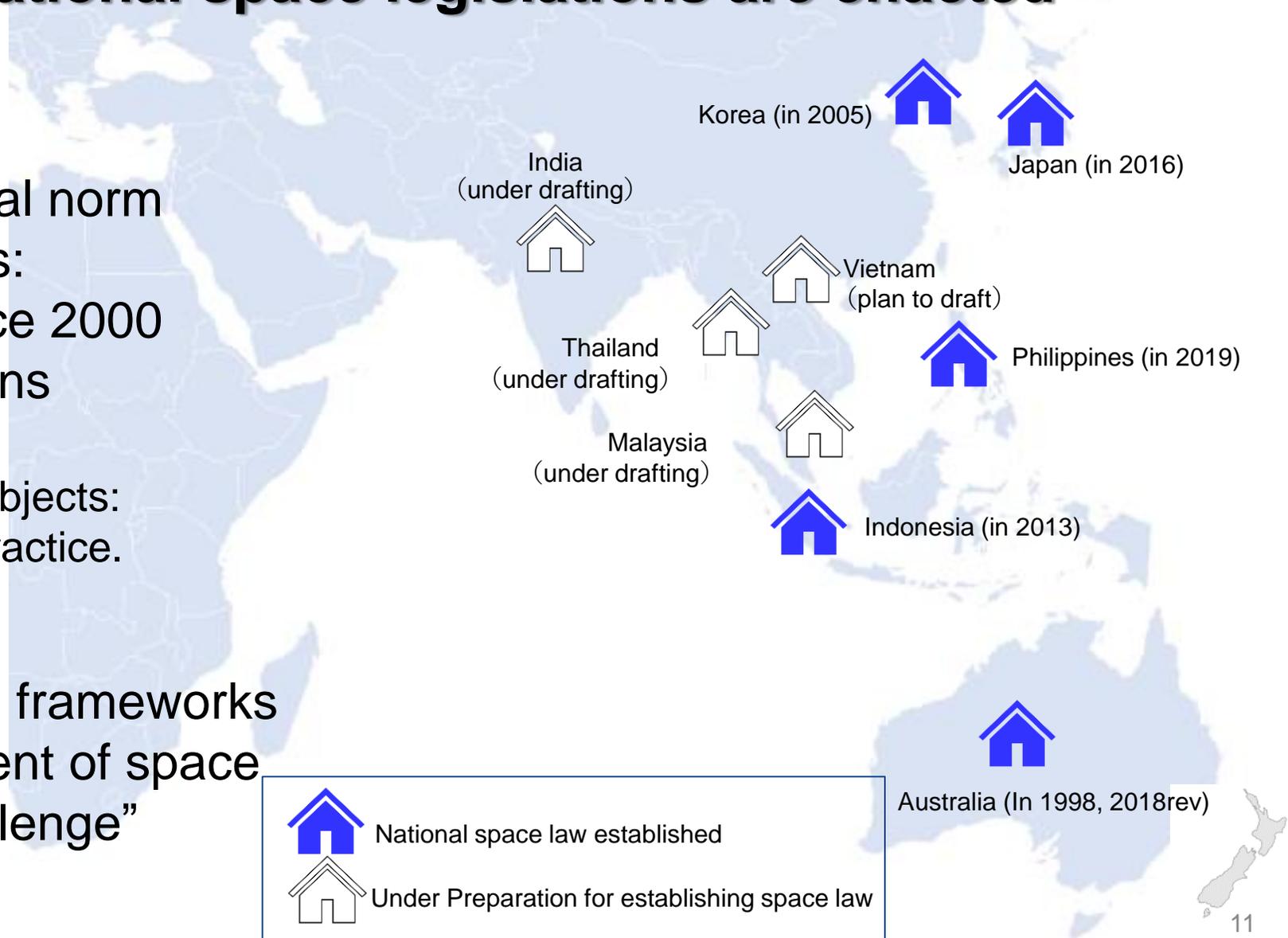


Main Findings #2: Increasing number of national space legislations are enacted but challenge remains

- ◆ Outer Space Treaty:
A foundational international norm
- ◆ National space legislations:
More States enacting since 2000
- ◆ Further laws and regulations needed:
 - ✓ i.e., Registration of space objects:
yet to be a common practice.



- ◆ Establishing national legal frameworks in line with the advancement of space activities: “a common challenge”





Main Findings #3:

NSLI facilitates the sharing of information and fruitful discussions on legal challenges and best practices at regional and international levels

◆ NSLI's significance and implications

Regional Perspective

- ✓ **Enhancing space law capacity** through mutual learning of diverse legal practices.
- ✓ **Building a collaborative platform** to tackle common regional issues.

International Perspective

- ✓ **Contributing to the global agenda**, such as the sustainability of space activities and the stable use of outer space.
 - **Promoting national space policy & law in line with international regimes** through contributing to UNCOPUOS/LSC agendas, establishing regional cooperative mechanism, and enhancing the implementation of the Outer Space Treaty.

Conclusion and Way Forward

- **NSLI = an effective regional model** for enhancing capacities in establishing and implementing national space legislation

- **NSLI's Unique features:**
 - **Community building** among the space law & policy practitioners in the region.
 - **Mutual learning of States' practices** through exchanging information using a common format.
 - **Joint analysis and report drafting** on the status of space-related laws in the region.
 - **Direct contribution to the UN agendas** and global space community.
 - **Building a foundation for future discussions** on common regional issues.

- Establishment of **a new WG dedicated to space policy and law** at the APRSAF-27, 2021.



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*APRSAF will continue to **promote capacity building in space law and policy** for the enhancement of space technology and socio-economic development in the Asia-Pacific Region and the contribution to the sustainability of outer space activities.*



Thank you for your attention!

https://www.aprsaf.org/initiatives/national_space_legislation/