



**Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee 62nd Session
February 3 – 14, 2025**

Japan Item 10 : Long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

As the number of players in the space sector continues to grow, the importance of advancing the development and implementation of effective rules to ensure the safety, security, sustainability, and stability of outer space cannot be overemphasized. Japan encourages member states and international organizations to fully implement the LTS guidelines, building on their adoption.

In this regard, Japan highly commends the professional and impartial work of Mr. Umamaheswaran, Chair of the Working Group on the LTS of Outer Space Activities and its secretariat. Japan remains committed to contributing to discussion to finalize the Working Group's report next year.

Chair,

I would like to begin by briefly outlining some examples of how Japan has been implementing the LTS Guidelines.

The LTS Guidelines encourage the design of space objects in accordance with international and national space debris mitigation standards and/or guidelines to limit their long-term presence after the end of their missions. As stated in Japan's Basic Plan on Space Policy 2023, we promote research and development in the field of active debris removal. For example, JAXA and Japanese start-up Astroscale are currently collaborating on the *Commercial Removal of Debris Demonstration (CRD2)* project.

In 2021, Japan established national on-orbit servicing guidelines which prescribe requirements to ensure the safe, secure, and transparent execution of activities such as on-orbit servicing, including active debris removal. The CRD2 project

mentioned earlier adheres to these guidelines, with mission details published on the government's website.

By sharing technological advancements and operational best practices, Japan is aims to foster international cooperation and strengthening rulemaking on debris mitigation and remediation measures.

The LTS Guidelines also emphasize international cooperation and capacity building. In this regard, Japan is cooperating with UNOOSA on the *Space Law for New Space Actors project* to support Asia-Pacific countries establish national space legislation for responsible and sustainable space activities. As part of this initiative, Japan and UNOOSA organized technical advisory missions in Manila in November 2024 and Bangkok in January 2025.

Furthermore, Japan has been actively taking part in regional community building related to space policy and law initiatives, such as the “National Space Legislation Initiative (NSLI)” under the framework of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF). In 2023, during the 66th session of COPUOS, Japan and NSLI member countries jointly submitted the second report on national space legislation, including the implementation status of the LTS Guidelines in each country. We are now working toward submitting a joint report to COPUOS in 2025.

Chair,

Last but not least, Japan acknowledged the fruitful discussion during the UN Space sustainability Days organized by UNOOSA last week. We also noted with contributions from public and private sectors to accelerate the discussion on Space Traffic Coordination and Space Traffic Management. Japan is ready to support such efforts in cooperation with Member States to ensure the safety, security, sustainability, and stability of outer space.

Thank you for your kind attention.