



Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space Scientific and Technical Subcommittee 62nd Session February 3 – 14, 2025 Japan Item 6 : "Space-system-based Disaster Management Support."

Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Japanese delegation, I am honoured to share Japan's recent initiatives and international cooperation efforts under this agenda item.

Chair,

Recognizing the importance of space technology and international cooperation in disaster management, Japan has been leading a regional disaster management project called *Sentinel Asia*. This initiative aims to prevent, mitigate, and reduce disaster related damages by sharing satellite data across the Asia Pacific region. Since its launch in 2006, *Sentinel Asia* has conducted approximately 500 emergency observations, with the participation of over 100 organizations across the region.

What sets *Sentinel Asia* apart is its inclusive framework, which integrates space agencies, disaster management organizations and international organizations. This collaboration enables robust disaster assessments and enhances response planning support. To further enhance and vitalize these activities, *Sentinel Asia* seeks greater support from the international community.

Last November, the Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA) hosted *Sentinal Asia*'s annual Joint Project Team Meeting (JPTM), which saw record participation from space agencies, disaster management organizations, and international organizations such as UNOOSA. The JPTM accommodated specialized training sessions tailored to participants' needs, enhancing preparedness and response to disasters. The efforts of Sentinel Asia align closely with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and contributes to its implementation.

Additionally, since 2005, JAXA has also been an active member of the International Charter "Space and Major Disasters" working alongside 16 other Charter members and supporting its activities. Last year, JAXA conducted emergency observations in response to requests from both *Sentinel Asia* and the International Charter. For example, during Typhoon Yagi, which affected many countries in South-East Asia, JAXA provided ALOS-2 satellite data to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Viet Nam. This data was shared proactively, enabling for an effective disaster response even before the typhoon struck.

Chair,

In the realm of water related disasters, JAXA has developed the Global Satellite Mapping of Precipitation (GSMaP) system under the Global Precipitation Measurement Mission (GPM). This data system generates a global precipitation map using data from multiple satellites, providing hourly global precipitation updates to support a wide range of disaster management activities.

One recent example of its effectiveness occurred in October 2024, when a year's worth of rain fell on the western region of Valencia, Spain in just eight hours, resulting in widespread flooding and damage. JAXA's GSMaP system monitoried this event in real time, recording more than 100 mm of rain within a single day. This data proved invaluable in assessing the disaster's impact across affected areas of Valencia.

Chair,

Before concluding, I would like to emphasize the vital role that space technology plays in managing natural disasters. Japan remains committed strengthening international cooperation in this field, ensuring that we harness these technologies for the safety and well-being of communities worldwide.

Thank you for your attention.