
Japanese Perspective on Space Sustainability

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JAXA's perspective

- Responsibility as spacefaring nation
 - Behave properly
 - JAXA put strong self regulation on its own space crafts
- Weak sense of urgency
 - Risk of space debris is not high
 - But the increasing possibility of debris collision changed the awareness
- Strong interest in new technology
 - Debris removal technology is becoming a major R&D subject
- Lack of investment in SSA
 - Radar and optical facilities for NEO but not enough capability

Changes of Awareness

- US pressure through 2+2 framework
 - 2+2: MOFA-MOD + DOS-DOD
 - SSA as the first priority for Japan-US cooperation
 - MOFA establish Office on space
 - Mainly dealing with Space Security issues
 - JAXA holding workshop on SSA
 - Possibility to increase budget for refurbishing radar site at Kamisaigahara
 - MOD still not showing interest in space
 - Priority on North Korean missile and nuclear issue
 - Priority in space is early warning satellite and missile defense
 - Space security is not attracting attention
 - No satellite, No immediate concern for operation
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New Policy, New Attitude

- Basic Space Law transformed Japanese policy
 - From R&D to utilization of space
 - Operational programs will be the center of space activities
 - Space security risks will be the major concerns
- Private actors will be more risk-sensitive
 - Increasing role of private actors through PFI and PPP would demand more role for government to play responsibly
- Space and diplomacy
 - Space security cannot be achieved without global governance system
 - MOFA is increasingly interested in taking initiatives in space
 - Strong political support for MOFA to play leading role in space in leadership competition against China