

JOINT DECLARATION OF INTENT
BETWEEN
THE CABINET OFFICE OF JAPAN
AND
THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
ON
SPACE COOPERATION FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSE

The Cabinet Office of Japan and the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space of the Federal Republic of Germany (hereinafter referred to collectively as “Participants” and individually as “Participant”)

- take into consideration the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology, signed on 8 October 1974;
- recognize that space technology and its application have huge potential to contribute to sustainable development;
- wish to strengthen the cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space on an equitable and mutually acceptable basis;
- wish to promote a new form of cooperation with strengthening existing activities of government agencies and other implementing entities of both countries;
- take into consideration longstanding cooperation within the framework of outer space development and utilization for peaceful purpose between the space agencies of both countries;
- recall the history where both countries have successfully completed joint activities in several areas of space research and its application;
- reconfirm the principles of both countries to support peaceful use of outer space for the benefit in regional and global level;
- note the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, signed on 27 January 1967, and other multilateral agreements regulating space utilization to which both countries are contracting parties;

- wish to establish a comprehensive framework to encourage formulation of further project-specific arrangements between the implementing agencies in charge of cooperation in areas of outer space exploration and utilization for peaceful purpose;
- acknowledge that the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space has been assigned the competence for space affairs within the German Federal Government as of May 2025
- wish to prolong the cooperation under the Joint Declaration of Intent between the Cabinet Office of Japan and the competent German Federal Ministry on Space Cooperation for Peaceful Purpose signed at Tokyo and Berlin respectively on March 19, 2020;

and have, therefore, reached the following consensus:

1. Objective

This Joint Declaration of Intent (hereinafter referred to as “JDoI”) purposes to promote cooperation between both countries in aspects of science, technology, industry and economy within the areas of exploration and utilization of outer space, application of space flight technology and systems and its commercialization for peaceful purpose.

2. Legal basis

The cooperative activities will be implemented in line with the laws and regulations of both countries, with international norms and with the obligations of the intergovernmental agreements to which both countries are contracting parties. For specific projects as set out in No. 3 of this JDoI, individual project cooperation arrangements may be formulated between the implementing agencies and other partners.

3. Forms of cooperation

Forms of the cooperative activities under this JDoI will include:

- (1) Design and implementation of joint projects using scientific, experimental and industrial assets of both countries;
- (2) Mutual disclosure of scientific and technological information, experiment data and achievement of joint research activities;
- (3) Mutual transfer of materials and equipment in areas of space science and technology;
- (4) Planning and organization of programs aiming at exchange of scientists, engineers and other relevant experts;
- (5) Organization of symposiums and conferences;
- (6) Participation in exhibitions, trade fairs and other events similar to those;
- (7) Facilitation of international business partnerships and various forms of joint activities in areas of space technologies and services; and

(8) Other forms of cooperative activities based upon the mutual consent of the Participants.

4. Areas of cooperation

- (1) The tentative areas of cooperation based on the proposal of the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space of the Federal Republic of Germany are listed in the Attachment of this JDoI and may be modified by the written consent of the Participants at any time.
- (2) In order to build a consensus for possible areas of cooperation, the Participants may organize a meeting in which the implementing agencies of both countries relevant to possible areas of cooperation may be invited as deemed necessary by the Participants.
- (3) This JDoI should not impede any cooperative activities of any entities of both countries.

5. Intellectual property rights

Matters relating to intellectual property rights resulting from the cooperative activities under this JDoI will be determined in a separate document made by the consensus of the Participants.

6. Resolution of difference

Any difference arising from the interpretation or application of this JDoI will be resolved amicably through consultations or negotiations between the Participants, without reference to any third party or international tribunal.

7. Duration, modification and discontinuation

- (1) The cooperation under this JDoI will commence on the date of signature by the Participants and will continue for a period of 5 (five) years. It may be extended by mutual written consent of the Participants for the same period.
- (2) This JDoI may be modified or revised by mutual consent between the Participants. Any resulting modifications should be made only in writing.
- (3) The cooperation under this JDoI may be discontinued by either Participant at any time. It should endeavor to give a written notice to the other Participant not later than 6 (six) months before the intended date of discontinuation.

8. Others

This JDoI is not a legally binding agreement between the Participants, and does not constitute or create, and is not intended to constitute or create, any rights or obligations under domestic or international law, and will not be deemed to constitute or create any legally binding or enforceable obligations, express or implied.

Signed in Berlin on 26 June 2025, in English in two copies.

For the Cabinet Office of Japan

For the Federal Ministry of Research,
Technology and Space of the Federal
Republic of Germany

Kiuchi Minoru
Minister of state for Space Policy

Dorothee Bär
Federal Minister of Research, Technology
and Space

ATTACHMENT
GERMAN PROPOSAL ON AREAS OF COOPERATION

Tentative areas of cooperation in line with No. 4 of the JDoI will include, but not limited to:

- space exploration;
- earth Remote Sensing including innovative X-band radar applications and climate and environmental science;
- laser communication including interoperability and standardization;
- space situational awareness as well as space surveillance and tracking for civil applications;
- exchange of views with respect to space law, sustainable use of space and satellite data security law;
- microgravity research and exploitation of the International Space Station;
- space-based applications and related technologies and services for strengthening the downstream business, especially with respect to New Space;
- research and development, production methods and operation of satellites, space systems and ground segments, especially with respect to New Space.