

## **Remarks by Minister Takaichi at the 6th Summit for Space Sustainability**

*Opening remarks*

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Hello and welcome to all distinguished keynote speakers, panelists, and participants.

First, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your participation in the 6th Summit for Space Sustainability co-hosted by the Cabinet Office of Japan and the Secure World Foundation.

The purpose of this summit is to foster and share an international common understanding among the global experts and stakeholders from security, industry, and academia involved in the use of outer space. Through global discussions from a wide range of perspectives such as governmental, industrial, and academic, we can address both the challenges in ensuring the sustainable use of outer space, and measures that should be taken to face those challenges.

Japan actively participates in international discussions such as the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and we are working to realize a free and open international order based on the rule of law in outer space.

In May last year, as president of the G7 Summit, I hosted the G7 Sendai Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting and discussed the need to implement the international guidelines for space debris adopted by UNCOPUOS, as well as the need for mitigation and remediation of debris. The G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Communique includes strong encouragement for technical development efforts to the joint statement, as well as a commitment not to conduct destructive direct-ascent anti-satellite missile testing, and an encouragement for other countries to follow suit. Similar content is in the G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communique.

In March this year, the Government of Japan updated the “Mid- to Long-Term Policy for Rule-Making on the Use of Earth Orbit.” This is an action plan to promote Japan’s efforts to enhance collision avoidance, Space Situational Awareness, debris mitigation and remediation, on-orbit services, and so on. I believe our experts will elaborate on issues addressed in the action plan, such as Japan’s efforts for rule-making on the sustainable use of outer space, development of debris remediation technology, and establishment of organizational system for SSA implementation. I am looking forward to a lively discussion.

In this summit, with many prominent leaders and experts of space fields from various nations, I hope that we will deepen discussions on a sustainable use of outer space, trends in the space industry, and space technology development, and ways to ensure sustainable exploration.  
Thank you very much.

(End)