

“NORWAY DAY” during EXPO 2025

Japan-Norway business seminar: “From Deep Ocean to Deep Space”

June 3rd, 2025

Opening Remarks by KAZEKI Jun, Director-General of National Space Policy Secretariat (NSPS), Government of Japan

(Introduction)

Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for inviting me today.

I am Jun KAZEKI from the National Space Policy Secretariat of the Cabinet Office, Government of Japan.

I would like to express sincere appreciation to Norwegian Embassy for providing this precious opportunity.

I would like to take this opportunity to talk about Japan's overall space policy, including space security.

(Japan's space policy overview)

First of all, let me talk about an overview of Japan's space policy. Japan's space policy is decided by the Strategic Headquarters for Space Policy, chaired by the Prime Minister and vice-chaired by the Chief Cabinet Secretary and the Minister of State for Space Policy. At NSPS, we serve as the secretariat of the Strategic Headquarters and coordinate with the relevant ministries and agencies to take a whole-of-government approach.

We have the Committee on National Space Policy, which serves as an advisory board composed of external subject matter experts. This committee deliberates on the Basic Plan on Space Policy and its Implementation Plan.

A unique aspect of our organization is that we also have the Quasi-Zenith Satellites System Strategy Office, which is responsible for the development and operation of 'Michibiki,' Japan's GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System).

JAXA has traditionally played a central role in Japan's research and development related to space. However, the revision of the JAXA Law in 2012 enabled JAXA to contribute to the security field as well.

(The 5th Basic Plan on Space Policy)

The Basic Plan on Space Policy is formulated once every three to four years, and its Implementation Plan is revised annually, through

which we are promoting our space policy. It is fair to say that all of Japan's space-related budgets are aligned with the Basic Plan on Space Policy.

The latest 5th Basic Plan on Space Policy was revised in June 2023 following the 2022 National Security Strategy and outlines the basic direction of space policy for the next ten years. It sets out four goals:

- (1) ensuring space security,
- (2) ensuring national resilience, tackle global-scale issues and achieve innovation
- (3) creating new knowledge and industries in space science and exploration, and
- (4) strengthening the industrial base to support space activities.

Just last week, on May 30, the Strategic Headquarters convened and finalized on the key priorities for the upcoming revision of the Implementation Plan scheduled for the end of this year.

(Space Technology Strategy)

Recently, in March 2024, the Space Technology Strategy was formulated by the Committee on Space Policy, and this strategy was revised in March of this year.

The relevant ministries and agencies will use this strategy as a reference for their budget requests and budget executions, including the Space Strategy Fund.

In order to ensure Japan's independence in space activities, we will promote technological development in various areas such as satellites, space science and exploration, space transportation, and cross-cutting technologies. These efforts will contribute to strengthening Japan's technological superiority and ensuring supply chain autonomy.

(Space Technology Strategy)

To promote research and development based on the Space Technology Strategy, the Space Strategy Fund was established within JAXA in March of last year, following the revision of the JAXA Act in November 2023. Utilizing this fund, JAXA will solicit technology development proposals from private companies such as Japanese startups, universities, and other entities, and will provide budgetary support totaling 1 trillion yen (around 6 billion US dollars) over a 10-year period.

The goals of the fund are (1) Expanding the space market, (2) Solving global and social issues such as climate change and disaster prevention, and (3) proceeding with research and development such as space exploration including Moon and Mars.

The fund provides detailed Key Performance Indicators. For example, concerning to Space Transportation, we aim to ensure domestic launch capacity of around 30 launches per year for flagship rockets and private rockets by the early 2030s.

Over the past two years, we have secured a budget of approximately 600 billion yen (around 4 billion US dollars), we sequentially issued calls for proposals to private companies, universities, national research and development agencies, and others, and made selections after review since July of last year.

(Space Security Initiative)

Based on the National Security Strategy formulated in December 2022, Japan established the Space Security Initiative, which provides Japan's basic policies for space security for the first time, in June 2023. This is the government's initiative specifying the challenges and policies in the field of space security, and this was formulated to clarify the efforts with the next approximately 10 years in mind and to reflect those efforts in the Basic Plan on Space Policy, which is a cross-governmental initiative.

The key approaches of the Space Security Initiative are: (1) Radically Expand the Use of Space Systems for National Security, which means "Security from Space", (2) Ensuring Safe and Stable Use of Outer Space, which means "Security in Space and (3) Realization of a Virtuous or positive Cycle of Security and Fostering Space Industrial Base.

To achieve the first and second approaches, we aim to build a future space architecture.

We plan to develop capabilities across a wide range of areas, including PNT (Positioning, Navigation, and Timing), intelligence gathering, communications, missile defense, SSA/SDA (Space Situational Awareness/Space Domain Awareness), and launches.

(Conclusion)

In conclusion, let me say a few words. Today, I have provided an overview of Japan's space policy. Space is a frontier, and its

development and utilization cannot be achieved by the efforts of a single nation alone. There are many challenges and opportunities, therefore, it is essential to deepen cooperation with like-minded countries such as Norway, as a trusted partner.

In fact, I welcome Norway's participation in the Artemis Accords this year as the 55th members. Actually, Japan is one of the original 8 signatory countries and always supports the multilateral approach. Also, in the security context, Japan and Norway joined the Combined Space Operations Initiative called CSPO, led by the United States, in 2023.

Now I conclude my opening remarks by wishing Norway and Japan space cooperation develops further in coming years. Thank you for your attention.

(End)