UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD), twenty-third session (virtual meeting)
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Discussion on "Exploring space technologies for sustainable development and the benefits of international research collaboration in this context"

Statement submitted by

Japan

Japan would like to extend its appreciation for the hard work of the Secretariat to prepare this annual session.

Regarding the report of the Secretary General titled, "Exploring space technologies for sustainable development and the benefits of international research collaboration in this context", Japan has worked on various initiatives and some of these have been included in the report thanks to the Secretariat. Japan would like to introduce some other relevant initiatives.

As for natural resources and environment management, Japan has an initiative called "JICA-JAXA Forest Early Warning System in the Tropics" (JJ-FAST), which monitors global tropical forests with ALOS-2 and has detected 308,353 points of concern as of April 2020.
(https://www.eorc.jaxa.jp/jjfast/)

Another initiative is called "Sentinel Asia", which is designed to promote space-enabled cooperation for disaster and humanitarian response. It is an international cooperation project to support disaster management activity in the Asia-Pacific region by applying WEB-GIS technology and space based technology, such as earth observation satellites data. It has dealt with 319 disaster cases since 2007.
(https://sentinel-asia.org/)

Regarding satellites used for disaster monitoring, the report only refers to Landsat, but Japan would like to add that we are utilizing ALOS-2 for disaster monitoring.

Japan would also like to point out that there are some terms that should be added or slightly edited from the perspectives of ease of reference and accuracy. In paragraph 16 (p.5), the precipitation monitoring system developed by JAXA is known as "GSMaP" and the name should be included for easy reference. In paragraph 48 (p.11), "Kibo Cube" should be written as "Kibo CUBE", and "cube sats" should be written as "Cube Sats".