

Singapore and Japan strengthen cooperation in the space sector.

On July 6th, the Singapore National Space Agency and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance cooperation in the field of space technology development.

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Prime Minister Lawrence Wong and his Japanese counterpart Sanae Takaichi. (Photo: AP)

On July 6th, the National Space Agency of Singapore (NSAS) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation

(MoC) to enhance collaboration in the areas of space technology development, research, and space exploration.

This is the first cooperation agreement between the space agencies of Singapore and Japan, signed following a commitment by Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong and Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi earlier this year to promote bilateral cooperation in this field.

According to a TTXVN correspondent in Singapore, under the agreement, NSAS and JAXA will enhance information exchange and seek cooperation opportunities in various fields such as space technology development and application, space science and exploration, space industry development, human resource training, as well as exchange on policies and governance frameworks.

On the sidelines of the Spacetide 2026 conference in Tokyo, the two agencies also exchanged letters of cooperation on promoting businesses within the framework of JAXA's Co-funded Business Development Support Program (CBPF).

Singapore has become the third partner country to join this program, after the UK and France. According to NSAS, the new cooperation framework will support enhanced connections between Singaporean and Japanese businesses,

facilitating the formation of collaborative projects in areas of mutual interest within the space industry.

Also at the event, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) of Singapore and Fusic, a software development company from Japan, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate in researching the application of artificial intelligence (AI) in satellite operations.

The two sides will collaborate on research into AI solutions to support ground station operations, mission planning, resource allocation for satellite control stations, and early detection of technical problems.

NTU Vice-Chancellor Christian Wolfrum said that as the number of satellite constellations increases, the space industry needs new solutions to manage space missions safely, efficiently, and on a larger scale.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, NSAS Executive Director Ngiam Le Na emphasized that international partnerships play a crucial role in expanding opportunities for Singapore's space industry ecosystem. She stated that this is NSAS's first bilateral cooperation agreement since its establishment in April this year.

According to Ms. Ngiam Le Na, Singapore hopes to work with Japan to promote innovation, create more development opportunities for businesses in both countries, and contribute to the safe and sustainable use of outer space.

On the Japanese side, JAXA President Hiroshi Yamakawa said that the signing of the agreement coincided with the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

He emphasized that the two sides have had many successful collaborative activities in the past, including Japan's support in launching Singapore's satellites using the H-IIB rocket and from the Kibo module on the International Space Station (ISS).

He expressed confidence that the new agreement would contribute to deepening cooperation between Japan and Singapore in the fields of science, technology,

and space, and jointly address global challenges.