

Report of Preparations Committee for Integration of Three Space Organizations was Released

Considering the significance of reforming the corporation having a special status in Japan, the Ministry of Education, Sport, Science and Technology decided to integrate three space organizations (National Space Development Agency, Institute of Space and Astronautical Science and National Aerospace Laboratory) on August 21, 2001. "Preparations Committee for Integration of Three Space Organizations" was consisted of members of the Space Activities Commission, top management people of three space organizations and knowledgeable people from universities, industries, etc. This committee organized a final report on the integration of three space organizations on March 27, 2002*.

Based on the importance of the core insic principle.

- (1) To focus on priority functions.
- (2) To consider reinforcement of the basic technology in the prioritization.
- (3) To build the most suitable organization system in order to conduct R&D effectively and efficiently.
- (4) To maintain world highest level research on space science and to construct the most suitable organization for that purpose.
- (5) To promote smooth connection and cooperation with industry.

A new organization after the integration as follows:

- To establish a core organization for R&D of space, space science and aeronautical science
- To reorganize three space organizations into 4 divisions in order to promote the systematic R&D from basic research to development effectively and efficiently. The cross-divisionary project teams are configured by staff in these four divisions.
- To build system for promoting flexible and strong connection and cooperation among industry, academia and government in order to expand the space utilization and space industry.
- To promote personnel education through graduate school in the wide field assigned to the three space organizations.
- To operate flexibly as a non-public servant type independent administrative institution

The major effectiveness of the integration is shown below:

- ◆ To operate efficiently and effectively under a principle, unifying development of rocket, its launch and tracking which are conducted separately by two organizations into one system.
- ◆ To construct strong network among academia, public sector R&D organizations and industry.
- ◆ To operate simplified management system by consolidation and rationalization of administrative management and test facilities.

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*Preparation Committee for Integration of Three Space Organizations: "Report on the New Organization After Integration of Three Space Organizations", March 27, 2002.