



Committee on the Peaceful Uses
of Outer Space
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Scientific and Technical
Subcommittee
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Agenda Item 4 General Exchange of Views

Mr. (or Madam) Chair and Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great honor to be given this opportunity to make a brief statement about the recent activities of our international NGO, the University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC)-Global. I want to express my gratitude to the Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC), and Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini, newly appointed Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA) for their excellent preparation.

Before going to the topics, I would like to take this opportunity to mention our heartfelt appreciation to those who offered kind and rapid help to the earthquake-damaged victims of Noto peninsula of western Japan. This big tragedy struck on New Year's Day. We pray for a smooth and speedy recovery from the devastation.

Chair and Distinguished delegates,
Amid the lingering COVID pandemic, we took slow but steady steps last year to hold several in-person gatherings. Let me illustrate a few

examples.

We organized the 9th UNISEC-Global Meeting in Tokyo last November 2023 with 90 participants from 19 countries/regions. At the meeting, we discussed how to use nano-satellite technology for the benefit of humankind, such as for the mitigation and prevention of natural disasters like global warming and earthquakes followed by tsunamis. The next UNISEC-Global Meeting will be held in South Africa in November 2024.

Last year, the UNISEC-Global celebrated its tenth anniversary. In the past decade, we concentrated on the development of satellites for reaching low earth orbit. Following various discussion about the next decade at the Meeting, a consensus was formed about reaching the Moon and beyond. Access to the Moon should be open to all, including to students from non-spacefaring countries. Of course, we will continue to contribute to implementing the long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

Next, I would like to briefly mention the 8th Mission Idea Contest (MIC-8) held in Tokyo on November 29, 2023, within the framework of the 9th UNISEC-Global Meeting. Under the theme of “Missions by Multiple Nano-Satellites”, there were 10 final teams from 9 countries who survived the preliminary reviews by international experts. The next Mission Idea Contest’s theme is “Lunar Mission” – and we welcome students, engineers, and researchers all over the world to participate in this contest.

Finally, last year August, we organized the annual in-person hands-on training course of the CubeSat/CanSat Leader Training Program (CLTP) in Japan. The Program encompasses the entire cycle of satellite development using HEPTA Sat kits. It may be no exaggeration to say that the program would be a brainchild of realizing the motto of cheaper, shorter and easier access to satellite technology. It was the 12th program with 17 participants from 13 countries. Since CLTP's commencement in 2011, we have produced 134 graduates from 54 countries/regions. Most of them are from non-spacefaring countries.

I want to close my 2024 statement by repeating an African proverb: It says, *"If you want to go faster, go alone. If you want to go further, go together"*.

For the next decade of UNISEC-Global, let's go together to the Moon and beyond. Thank you for your kind attention.

By Rei Kawashima,
Secretary General of UNISEC-Global