

(Key note speech in CGMS 48 plenary; representative of JMA)

Good evening, everyone. I am Hironobu Yokota, director of Satellite Program Division of Japan meteorological agency.

Among geostationary satellites, Himawari series are operated by JMA over the last 40 years or so, and play a great role to prevent natural disasters in East Asia and West Pacific countries. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our international partners, particularly GOES-9 back-up operation by NOAA/NESDIS about 15 years ago, and cooperative works to develop Himawari 8/9's related utilization techniques with JAXA, EUMETSAT and various other partners.

JMA launched the HimawariRequest service which provides 2.5-minute target area observation to NMHSs in Asia-Pacific region in 2018. It has contributed to precise monitoring of cyclones and severe weather in those countries and bushfires in Australia from late last year to early this year.

Recently, strong Typhoons and extreme severe weather events often cause big damages in Japan, so the risk management is strongly requested. In 2018, JMA established a 10-years strategy toward 2030 for services supporting public safety. To address challenges relating disaster risk reduction, JMA plans to set-up efforts in the development of observation and forecast techniques and Himawari follow on satellite is expected to provide more and more precise observations to improve severe weather prediction. The hyper-spectral infrared sounder will be a strong candidate for the new sensor to be loaded to Himawari follow-on satellite.

The government of Japan revised the basic plan on space policy and related implementation plan this year. In the Japanese government's strategic plan, Himawari follow-on satellite will be started to manufacture by FY2023 and aiming to start in operation in around FY2029, and high resolution observation will be expected to disaster prevention.

So, I and my colleague will make every effort to steady progress to the follow-on satellite program to contribute to natural disaster prevention international contribution.

Finally, we would like to thank the CGMS Secretariat for preparing this meeting despite the difficult situation worldwide. We hope it will be a fruitful meeting.

Thank you for your attention.