
Regional Cooperation in Asia/Pacific Region

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Introduction

- Historical Background of the Region
 - Legacy of World War II
 - Historical scars of invasion and colonization
 - Difficult relationship among Japan, China and South Korea
 - Legacy of Cold War
 - Questions of territorial issues including Taiwan Straits
 - Embedded skepticism and divided nationhood
 - Space has been less influenced by Cold War
 - Lack of incentives to use space as Cold War competition
 - Space is regarded as a symbol of international power
 - Cooperation or Competition?
 - No explicit competition in civil and military field
 - But implicit mutual influence among major space
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APRSAF

- Began in 1993 – Inter-agency meeting, working groups
 - Transfer know-how from Japan to other members
 - Open, transparent, and democratic approach – Japan plays a role of moderator
 - Participants – Most of Asian agencies including Chinese agencies, open to external agencies such as NASA, CNES, DLR
- Revitalizing APRSAF from 2005
 - Strongly inspired by APSCO but remained as a forum of Space Agencies
 - Sentinel Asia, International DMC ...Learned from European exercises
 - STAR program – similar approach to SMMS of APSCO
- New ideas under preparation
 - Establishing international organizations for utilization of space assets
 - Similar to Eumetsat

APSCO

- APSCO and Leader of the developing states
 - AP-MCSTA
 - Launched in 1994, focusing on technological transfer
 - APSCO
 - Signed in 2005, and entered into force in 2008
 - Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Iran, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, Thailand, Turkey
 - Focus on application and training – different framework from Europe
 - It is not clear if manned space program will be a part of APSCO
 - ASAT test
 - Response to American Space Policy in 2006 – Fear for Space dominance and excluding China
 - Miscommunication among departments in Beijing
 - Recognition of the danger for creating debris – Joint proposal with Russia to PAROS
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Analysis of Regional Cooperation

- Inclusive vs. selective membership
 - APRSAF can accommodate many actors whereas APSCO can implement concrete programs
- Loose forum vs. hierarchical organization
 - APRSAF is open and fit for wider exchange of information whereas APSCO has certain power relationship
- Application-oriented vs. R&D-oriented
 - APRSAF promotes utilization of space whereas APSCO focuses on technological development

Analysis of Regional Cooperation

- Competition of organizations?
 - There is mutual influence but not a competition
 - There is no “win-lose” relationship between the two organizations
- Role of leadership
 - Both needed leadership of Japan and China
- Impact on national space policy
 - “Win-win” relationship – Leaders can expand their market, others will develop their capabilities and improve the use of space