

## IISL COLLOQUIUM ON THE LAW OF OUTER SPACE (E7)

National space law developments with particular focus on the Middle East region (5)

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## A REGIONAL INITIATIVE FOR STUDYING THE STATUS OF NATIONAL SPACE LAWS

**Abstract**

This paper studies how a new regional approach may enhance legislating or implementing concerning the national space laws and regulations through the “National Space Legislation Initiative (NSLI),” which has been implemented under the framework of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF). The APRSAF was established in 1993 and has been enhancing space activities and international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, which naturally includes the Middle East. The NSLI is a new APRSAF initiative launched in 2019 with a view to effectively studying the status of national space laws in the Asia-Pacific region. It aims to promote information sharing and mutual learning on the practices and examples of national space laws in the Asia-Pacific region. It also aims to enhance the capacity of drafting and implementing national space laws in the Asia-Pacific countries in accordance with international norms, including especially established international law rules. This paper first examines the current situations concerning national space law developments in the Asia-Pacific region and analyses how the NSLI can advance it within the APRSAF framework. In addition to analyzing the NSLI’s study reports, the significance and implications of this Initiative will also be stated for the reference and future partnership in other countries and regions.