Article 1 (Purpose)

This Act is aimed at facilitating the peaceful use and scientific exploration of outer space and contributing to national security, the sound development of national economy and the improvement of people's living, by promoting space development in a systematic way and ensuring the efficient use and administration of space objects.

Article 2 (Definitions)

Definitions of terms used in this Act are as follows:

(a) The term “space development” means one of the following:
   (i) Research and technology development activities related to design, production, launch, operation, etc. of space objects;
   (ii) Use and exploration of outer space and activities to facilitate them;
(b) The term “space development project” means a project to promote space development or a project to pursue the development of education, technology, information, industry, etc. related to space development;
(c) The term “space object” means an object designed and manufactured for use in outer space, including a launch vehicle, a satellite, a space ship and their components;
(d) The term “space accident” means an occurrence of damage to life, body or property due to crash, collision or explosion of a space object or other situation;
(e) The term “satellite information” means image, voice, sound or data acquired by using a satellite, or in-
formation made of their combination, including processed or applied information.

**Article 3 (Tasks of the Government)**

1. The Government shall observe treaties related to outer space which the Republic of Korea has concluded with other countries or international organizations and seek the peaceful use of outer space.

2. The Government shall formulate and carry out comprehensive policies for space development.

**Article 4 (Relationship with Other Laws)**

This Act applies to matters relating to the promotion of space development and the use and administration of space objects unless there are special provisions in other laws.

**Article 5 (Establishment of Basic Program on Space Development Promotion)**

1. The Government shall formulate a basic program on space development promotion (hereafter referred to as the “Basic Program”) containing the following items for the promotion of space development and the use and administration of space objects:
   
   (a) Matters relating to the goal and direction of space development policy;
   (b) Matters relating to the system and strategy for pursuing space development;
   (c) Matters relating to the plan for pursuing space development;
   (d) Matters relating to the expansion of the basis necessary for space development;
   (e) Matters relating to the funding and investment plan for space development;
   (f) Matters relating to the training of expert manpower for space development;
   (g) Matters relating to international cooperation to vitalize space development;
   (h) Matters relating to the promotion of space development projects;
(i) Matters relating to the use and administration of space objects;
(j) Matters relating to the utilization of outcomes of space development such as satellite information;
(k) Other matters to be specified by a Presidential Decree relating to the promotion of space development and the use and administration of space objects.

2. The Government shall formulate the Basic Program every five years and establish it through deliberations by the National Space Committee as provided for in Article 6, paragraph 1. The same applies to a change of the Basic Program. However, it does not apply to a change of minor things to be specified by a Presidential Decree.

3. The Minister of Science and Technology shall make public the Basic Program established in accordance with paragraph 2, and formulate and carry out its implementing plan every year in consultation with heads of central administrative authorities concerned including the Director General of the National Intelligence Service (hereafter the Director General of the National Intelligence Service to be included in heads of central administrative authorities concerned). However, matters related to national security need not to be made public.

Article 6 (National Space Committee)

1. The National Space Committee (hereafter referred to as the “Committee”) shall be established under the authority of the President in order to deliberate matters relating to space development such as the establishment of the Basic Program.

2. The Committee shall deliberate the following matters. However, deliberations of the Committee may be omitted in respect of (f), if the omission is necessary for reasons such as national security.

(a) Matters relating to the Basic Program;
(b) Matters relating to important policies of the Government related to the Basic Program and matters relating to the coordination of major tasks among central administrative authorities concerned including the National Intelligence Service (hereaf-
ter the National Intelligence Service to be included in central administrative authorities concerned);  
(c) Important matters relating to the designation and operation of the Special Agency for Space Development as provided for in Article 7;  
(d) Matters relating to the evaluation on the use and administration of a space development project;  
(e) Matters relating to a funding and investment plan for a space development project;  
(f) Matters relating to a launch license of a space object;  
(g) Matters relating to the rectification of space development as provided for in Article 19, paragraph 2;  
(h) Other matters referred to the Committee by its chairperson.

3. The Committee shall be composed of 15 or less members including the chairperson.

4. The Minister of Science and Technology shall be the chairperson of the Committee and the following persons shall be members of the Committee:
   (a) Heads of central administrative authorities concerned and officials of administrative authorities concerned to be specified by a Presidential Decree  
   (b) Individuals with expertise and experiences in the field of space to be appointed by the President

5. The Working-level Committee on Space Development Promotion headed by the Vice-Minister of Science and Technology shall be established under the Committee in order to help the Committee carry out its tasks efficiently.

6. Matters necessary for the composition and operation of the Committee and the Working-level Committee on Space Development Promotion shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree.

Article 7 (Designation of Special Agency for Space Development)

1. The Minister of Science and Technology may designate and support a special agency to pursue space development pro-
jects in a systematic and efficient way (hereafter referred to as the “Special Agency for Space Development”).

2. The Special Agency for Space Development shall carry out the following tasks:
   (a) Carrying out of space development projects in accordance with the Basic Program;
   (b) Carrying out of comprehensive tasks such as the development, launch and operation of space objects;
   (c) Other tasks related to space development project to be specified by a Presidential Decree.

3. Necessary matters relating to the criteria for designating the Special Agency for Space Development and relating to support for it shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree.

Article 8 (Domestic Registration of a Space Object)

1. A national of the Republic of Korea including a legal person (hereafter a legal person to be included) shall file preliminary registration with the Minister of Science and Technology not later than 180 days before the anticipated date of launch, as shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree, if the national intends to launch a space object other than a launch vehicle (a launch vehicle to be excluded in respect of this Article and Articles 9 and 10) in or outside the Republic of Korea.

2. Cases where a person who is not a Korean national shall file preliminary registration with the Minister of Science and Technology in accordance with paragraph 1 are as follows:
   (a) When the person intends to launch a space object in the territory of the Republic of Korea or in the area or facility under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Korea;
   (b) When the person intends to launch a space object outside the Republic of Korea by using a launch vehicle owned by the Government or a national of the Republic of Korea.

3. A person who wants to file preliminary registration in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 shall enclose a launch plan containing all of the following items:
(a) Matters relating to the purpose of using the space object;
(b) Matters relating to the owner of the space object or the holder of the right to use the space object;
(c) Matters relating to the life expectancy and the duration of use of the space object;
(d) Matters relating to the place and the anticipated date of launch;
(e) Matters relating to the basic trajectory of the space object;
(f) Matters relating to the provider of a launch vehicle to be used for launching the space object and its specifications and functions;
(g) Matters relating to the discharge of liability for damage in case of a space accident;
(h) Matters relating to the manufacturer, manufacturing number and date of the space object;
(i) Other matters relating to the launch, use and administration of the space object, to be specified by a Presidential Decree.

4. If the Minister of Science and Technology, after having reviewed the launch plan provided for in paragraph 3, considers the ability to discharge the liability for damage provided for in Article 14 to be insufficient, the Minister may demand its rectification and supplementation.

5. A person who has filed preliminary registration of a space object in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 shall register it with the Minister of Science and Technology within 90 days after its entry into a satellite orbit, as shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree. However, it does not apply to a space object which has been registered with a foreign country upon agreement with the foreign country to that effect in accordance with the ‘Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space.’

6. A person who has filed preliminary registration in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 or who has registered a space object in accordance with paragraph 5 shall notify the Minister of Science and Technology of a change, if any, in the contents of
items of paragraph 3 within 15 days after his knowledge of the change.

Article 9 (International Registration of a Space Object)

1. When a space object is registered in accordance with Article 8, paragraph 5, the Minister of Science and Technology shall register the space object with the United Nations via the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade in accordance with the ‘Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space.’ However, it does not apply to a satellite which is to be registered with the United Nations in accordance with Article 44, paragraph 1 of the Radio Wave Act.

2. If there arises a change in the contents which have been registered with the United Nations in accordance with paragraph 1 due to reasons such as the completion of life span of a space object, the Minister of Science and Technology shall notify the United Nations of the change via the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Article 10 (Administration of Registry)

The Minister of Science and Technology shall maintain and administer the preliminary registry and the registry for space objects, as shall be stipulated by a Regulation of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Article 11 (Launch License for a Launch Vehicle)

1. A person who intends to launch a launch vehicle shall have a license of the Minister of Science and Technology in one of the following cases. The same applies when a person wants to change what has been licensed. However, in case of a change of minor nature to be specified by a Presidential Decree a person shall report it within 30 days after the date of the change.

   (a) When the person intends to launch a launch vehicle in the territory of the Republic of Korea or in the area or facility under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Korea;

   (b) When the person intends to launch outside the Republic of Korea a launch vehicle owned by the
Government or a national of the Republic of Korea.

2. A person who wants to be granted a license in accordance with paragraph 1 shall apply to the Minister of Science and Technology with a launch plan to be specified by a Presidential Decree including a safety analysis report, a payload operation plan and a plan on discharging the liability for damage.

3. The Minister of Science and Technology shall take into consideration the following in granting a license:

(a) Appropriateness of the purpose of using a launch vehicle;
(b) Appropriateness of safety management of a launch vehicle and etc to be used for the launch;
(c) Financial ability such as liability insurance against a space accident;
(d) Other matters necessary for the launch and launch preparations such as moving a launch vehicle, to be specified by a Regulation of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

4. The Minister of Science and Technology may attach necessary conditions in granting a license in accordance with paragraph 1.

Article 12 (Disqualification)

A person who falls under one of the following categories may not be granted a launch license provided for in Article 11:

(a) An incompetent or a quasi-incompetent;
(b) An insolvent whose rights have not been restored;
(c) Where a person was in violation of this Act and sentenced to imprisonment, and less than two years have passed since the date of completed execution of the sentence (cases being regarded as completed execution of the sentence to be included) or the date of exemption from its execution;
(d) A person who was in violation of this Act, sentenced to imprisonment with suspension of its
execution and is now during the suspension period;
(e) A legal person whose representative is one of the above-mentioned four categories.

Article 13 (Revocation of a Launch License and Hearing)

1. The Minister of Science and Technology may revoke a launch license for a launch vehicle in one of the following cases:
   (a) Where the launch is delayed without justifiable reasons for not less than one year since the licensed anticipated date;
   (b) Where the license is obtained in a deceptive or other wrongful way;
   (c) Where a head of central administrative authorities concerned requests for the revocation of a license due to an anticipated serious threat to national security;
   (d) Where there is a problem in the safety of a launch vehicle such as leakage of fuel or a defect in the communication system before its launch;
   (e) Where a license for a change is not obtained in violation of the latter part of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1;
   (f) Where a licensee becomes to fall into one of the categories of Article 12; however, in respect of (e) of Article 12, this provision does not apply when the representative of a legal person in question is replaced within 3 months from the date of having been disqualified.

2. The Minister of Science and Technology shall hold a hearing when the Minister intends to revoke a launch license for a launch vehicle in accordance with paragraph 1. However, a hearing is not necessary in respect of (c) and (d) of paragraph 1.

Article 14 (Liability for Damage from Space Accident)

A person who has launched a space object in accordance with Article 8 or 11 shall bear the liability for damage from a space accident by the space object. Matters such as the scope and limit of liability shall be stipulated by a separate Act.
Article 15 (Liability Insurance)

1. A person who wants to be granted a launch license for a launch vehicle in accordance with Article 11 shall be insured against liability, considering the possibility of a space accident, etc.

2. The minimum amount of compensation covered by the insurance to be secured in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be stipulated by a Regulation of the Ministry of Science and Technology taking into consideration domestic and overseas insurance markets.

Article 16 (Composition of Space Accident Investigation Commission, etc.)

1. The Minister of Science and Technology may establish a Space Accident Investigation Commission under the authority of the Minister in order to investigate a space accident to be specified by a Presidential Decree.

2. The Space Accident Investigation Commission shall be composed of 5 to 11 members including its chairperson. Members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Minister of Science and Technology from relevant experts and the chairperson shall be chosen by the Minister from the members of the Commission. In respect of matters related to national security to be specified by a Presidential Decree, a separate Space Accident Investigation Commission may be established as shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree.

3. The Space Accident Investigation Commission may investigate any of the following persons in order to perform its duties. A person who is the object of the investigation shall comply with it unless he has legitimate reasons not to do.

   (a) A person who filed preliminary registration or registered a space object in accordance with Article 8;

   (b) A person who was granted a license for a launch vehicle in accordance with Article 11;

   (c) Other persons involved in a space object such as its manufacturer or a person who tested its function.
4. The Space Accident Investigation Commission may request heads of central administrative authorities concerned to provide cooperation such as entry control of an accident area or other matters necessary for the investigation. When requested, heads of central administrative authorities concerned shall comply with such request, unless they have legitimate reasons not to do.

5. Necessary matters relating to the timing of the composition of the Space Accident Investigation Commission, qualifications of its members and its operation shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree.

Article 17 (Utilization of Satellite Information)

1. The Minister of Science and Technology may contrive necessary measures such as the designation or establishment of an organization in charge in order to promote the spread and utilization of satellite information acquired by satellites developed under the Basic Program. In respect of geographic information acquired in accordance with the Act on the Establishment and Utilization of National Geographic Information System, the Minister of Science and Technology shall consult the Minister of Construction and Transportation.

2. The Minister of Science and Technology may provide financial support necessary to promote the spread and utilization of satellite information within the budgetary limit.

3. The Government shall make efforts for the privacy of an individual not to be infringed on in the utilization of satellite information.

Article 18 (Support for Private Space Development Projects)

1. The Minister of Science and Technology shall contrive supportive measures such as the supply of advanced space development manpower, tax incentive, financial support and priority procurement in order to vitalize space development projects of the private sector and induce the expansion of research and development investment of the private sector.
2. The Minister of Science and Technology may request heads of central administrative authorities concerned to cooperate for supportive measures provided for in paragraph 1.

Article 19 (Suspension and Rectification of Space Development)

1. If the Minister of National Defense requests the suspension of space development being carried out by a national of the Republic of Korea on account of a military operation in case of war, disturbances or similar kinds of emergencies, the Minister of Science and Technology shall order the national to suspend space development.

2. If a head of central administrative authorities concerned requests the rectification of space development being carried out by a national of the Republic of Korea on account of the maintenance of public order or national security, the Minister of Science and Technology may, after deliberations by the Committee, order the national to rectify space development.

Article 20 (Request for Assistance and Cooperation for Space Development)

1. The Minister of Science and Technology may request heads of central administrative authorities concerned or heads of local governments to provide assistance and cooperation in respect of the following matters, if the Minister considers it necessary for pursuing space development. When requested, heads of central administrative authorities concerned or heads of local governments shall comply with such request, unless they have legitimate reasons not to do.

   (a) Matters relating to the entry control of surrounding areas including territorial sea and air space in relation to domestic launch of a space object;
   (b) Matters relating to communication, firefighting, emergency rescue, safety management, etc.

2. When the Minister of Science and Technology makes a request for assistance and cooperation in accordance with paragraph 1, the Minister shall limit it to the minimum necessary for space development.
Article 21 (Pursuit of Space Development Project related to National Security)

1. When the Minister of Science and Technology pushes forward a space development project related to national security, the Minister shall consult heads of central administrative authorities concerned in advance.

2. Necessary matters relating to the establishment and implementation of security measures in relation to the space development project of paragraph 1 shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree.

Article 22 (Rescue of Astronauts)

If astronauts aboard a foreign space object are in the territory of the Republic of Korea or on adjacent high seas due to emergency landing, distress or accident, the Government shall provide possible assistance and return astronauts to the state of launch, the state of registry or the international organization which is responsible for the launch of the space object concerned.

Article 23 (Return of a Space Object)

If a foreign space object crashes or makes an emergency landing in the territory of the Republic of Korea, the Government shall return it safely to the state of launch, the state of registry or the international organization which is responsible for the launch of the space object concerned.

Article 24 (Data Collection and Survey on Space Development, etc.)

1. The Minister of Science and Technology may collect data or conduct survey on space development and space industry in order to promote space development in a systematic way and carry out space development in an efficient way.

2. The Minister of Science and Technology may request administrative authorities concerned, research institutes, educational institutes and companies to provide data or opinions, if the Minister considers it necessary for domestic survey provided for in paragraph 1.
3. Necessary matters relating to contents, timing and procedure of data collection and survey provided for in paragraph 1 shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree.

**Article 25 (Obligation of Confidentiality)**

A person who is or was engaged in work in accordance with this Act shall not leak a secret obtained during his work or use it for purposes other than for this Act.

**Article 26 (Entrusting of Authority)**

The Minister of Science and Technology may, in accordance with the provisions of a Presidential Decree, entrust the following tasks among the Minister's authorities provided for in this Act to a Government-funded research institute or a relevant special institute in the field of science and technology which has been established in accordance with the Act on the Establishment, Management and Promotion of Government-funded Research Institutes in the Field of Science and Technology:

(a) Safety judgment in relation to granting a license or a license for a change in accordance with Article 11, paragraph 1;

(b) Matters relating to data collection or survey on space development and space industry in accordance with Article 24.

**Article 27 (Penal Regulations)**

1. A person who launched a launch vehicle without a license (including a license for a change, if any) provided for in Article 11, paragraph 1 shall be subject to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 5 years or to a fine not exceeding won 50,000,000.

2. A person who falls under one of the following categories shall be subject to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 3 years or to a fine not exceeding won 30,000,000:

   (a) A person not observing a suspension or rectification order provided for in Article 19;

   (b) A person violating Article 25.
Article 28 (Dual Punishment)

Where a representative, an agent or an employee of a legal person, or an agent or an employee of an individual committed a violation provided for in Article 27 in relation to the work of the legal person or the individual, the legal person or the individual shall be also subject to a fine of the same Article, in addition to the punishment of the actor having committed the violation.

Article 29 (Negligence Fine)

1. A person who falls under one of the following categories shall be subject to a negligence fine not exceeding won 10,000,000;
   (a) A person who did not file preliminary registration of a space object in violation of Article 8, paragraph 1 or 2;
   (b) A person who did not register a space object in violation of Article 8, paragraph 5;
   (c) A person who did not report a change in violation of the proviso of Article 11, paragraph 1.

2. A person who falls under one of the following categories shall be subject to a negligence fine not exceeding won 5,000,000;
   (a) A person who did not notify a change within 15 days or did notify it falsely in violation of Article 8, paragraph 6;
   (b) A person who refused, obstructed or evaded an accident investigation provided for in Article 16, paragraph 3.

3. Negligence fines provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be levied and collected by the Minister of Science and Technology, as shall be stipulated by a Presidential Decree.

4. A person who objects to a negligence fine having been imposed in accordance with paragraph 3 may file an objection with the Minister of Science and Technology within 30 days from the date of having been informed of the imposition of the negligence fine.

5. When a person on whom a negligence fine had been imposed in accordance with paragraph 3 filed an objection in ac-
cordance with paragraph 4, the Minister of Science and Technology shall notify the court of jurisdiction of it without delay. The court of jurisdiction which is informed shall judge the case in accordance with the Act on Litigation Procedure for Non-contentious Cases.

6. When neither an objection is filed nor a negligence fine is paid within the period provided for in paragraph 4, the negligence fine will be collected, following the example of a disposition for the recovery of taxes in arrears.

Addenda

1. (Date of Entry into Force) This Act shall enter into force 6 months after of its promulgation.

2. (Interim Measures for Basic Program on Space Development Promotion) Until the basic program on space development promotion is established in accordance with Article 5, the mid-to long-term basic program on space development established through the deliberations of the National Committee on Science and Technology in accordance with the Framework Act on Science and Technology shall be regarded as the basic program on space development promotion.

3. (Interim Measures for Registration of Space Objects) Space objects which the Republic of Korea has registered with the United Nations at the time of the entry into force of this Act shall be regarded as having been registered in accordance with Article 8.