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SPACE POLICY PRIORITIES IN UKRAINE

Abstract

The dominants of modern Space Policy of Ukraine are: support of efficient use of scientific, technological and industrial potentials of space branch, space technology transfer in high-technology national products and innovative development of State economy. These objectives are reflected in Space law of Ukraine (State target scientific and technological space program of Ukraine for 2008-2012, accepted 30.09.2008) and supported by the Conception of the State policy realization in the branch of space activity till 2030, which is under development now. Space policy is realized in Ukraine by National Space Agency (NSAU), which was organized in 1992.

Present state of the space branch development still allows realizing in practice modern hi-tech space projects. Ukrainian industry possesses complete cycle of development, tests, launch and exploitation of spacecrafts, as well as of data reception and processing. As the examples, the famous "Sea Launch" project may be mentioned, which was executed in the international cooperation with USA, Russia and Norway; new Cyclone-4 rocket development and Alcantara (Brazil) space pad construction, remote sensing satellite gyptSat-1 manufacturing, launch and exploitation etc. As a new proposal, the ambitious project IONOSAT, aimed at the creation of the multi-point ionospheric system for monitoring of natural and man-made hazards, is now under development and discussion with international community.

After the independence proclamation in the early 1990ties, the transformation of the Ukrainian economy was initiated. The induced by this reduction of the National income created the situation when State budget was not able to support space branch at necessary level. Because of this it was decided to concentrate the efforts at the reforms which could allow decreasing the budget charge at the expense of commercialization and technology transfer conditions, attractive for internal and external potential customers. It is supposed to promote further progress in the branch by force of the stimulating of fundamental and applied research, mostly by participation in the international exploration programs of peaceful use of space (including exploration of Moon and solar system planets and small bodies). But advanced national programs realization will be also supported (e.g., IONOSAT constellation, UkrSelena project).

The presented report illustrates how these mechanisms of space branch efficiency increasing work in Ukraine. It is shown that the space branch is gradually transforming in effective management lever to meet the actual challenges of social, economic, ecological, cultural and educational development of the society, to support national defense program and realization of geopolitical State interests.