

## Establishment of “Kibo Utilization Office for Asia” (KUOA)

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has established a new office for Asian Kibo utilization promotion in 2010. It is named “Kibo Utilization Office for Asia”(KUOA) and directed by Mr. Shigeki Kamigaichi, Space Environment Utilization Center, Human Space Systems and Utilization Mission Directorate.

We have been promoting various kinds of cooperation with Asian countries through the Asia–Pacific Region Space Agency Forum (APRSAF) activities since 2005. The purpose of this office is to expand the current cooperation with Asian countries on the ground into space by using Kibo Laboratory on orbit.

The ISS Program is visualizing the great challenges in all kinds of collaboration in terms of science, technology and liberal arts type of activities in space, yet hoping to yield substantial payback to human welfare on the Earth. JAXA is ready to share the benefit out of utilizing the Kibo Laboratory together with Asian countries.

We hope that all of the world will be united friendly under the ISS Program through the years to come.