

## NIGERIA

### **National mechanism:**

National Space Research and Development Agency Act 2010 No.9 A 1255

### **Description:**

The National Space Research and Development Agency Act 2010 (NASRDA ACT) established formally the National Space Research and Development Agency, empowering the National Space Council as the regulating and supervisory entity for space activities in Nigeria.

By virtue of the Act, the National Space Council authorizes licences for all space activities in Nigeria. License condition under this Act includes permitting inspection and testing of the licensee's facilities and equipment. License may also be issued on the condition that the licensee provides information to the Council concerning the nature, conduct, location and results of the licensee's activities.

An advance approval of the Council must be obtained for any intended deviation from orbital parameters and it is obligatory to inform the Council immediately of any unintended deviation.

In the Act, particular emphasis is placed on the mitigation of space debris, a licensee is required to conduct its operations in such a way as to prevent the contamination of outer space or cause any adverse changes in the environment of the Earth, to avoid interference with the activities of others states involved in the peaceful exploration of outer space and, to govern the disposal of the payload in outer space on the termination of operations.

A comprehensive amendment of the Act is planned.

### **Applicability:**

The National Space Research and Development Agency Act 2010, is applicable to all space activities within Nigeria by both citizens and non-citizens.

### **Relation to international mechanisms:**

Nigeria is an active member of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, with participation in Legal and Scientific and Technical Subcommittees. It supports in totality the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee and the IADC Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines.

Disposal of payload as a condition to obtain a licence as contained in the NASRDA Act is in compliance with Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee.

**Link to other national mechanisms:**

None.

**References:**

None.