

**News Release**

## **Himawari-8 operation initiated**

7 July 2015

Japan Meteorological Agency

The Himawari-8 geostationary meteorological satellite managed by the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) began operation at 02 UTC on 7 July 2015, replacing the previous MTSAT-2 operational satellite.

Himawari-8 was launched using H-IIA Launch Vehicle No. 25 on 7 October 2014 from the Tanegashima Space Center, and JMA subsequently conducted testing and checking of the satellite and related systems. During the commissioning phase, Himawari-8's capacity for superior earth monitoring with multi-band, high-resolution and high-frequency observation was verified. JMA firmly believes that Himawari-8 will open the door to a new generation of satellite meteorology, and that it will contribute to the prevention and mitigation of weather-related disasters in the East Asia and Western Pacific regions as past satellites have done.

Related links:

<http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/jma-eng/satellite/>

<http://www.jma-net.go.jp/msc/en/>

For more information: [metsat@met.kishou.go.jp](mailto:metsat@met.kishou.go.jp)