

# **SUSTAINABILITY OF ORBITAL OPERATIONS: STATUS OF SPACE POLLUTION AND PROPOSED ACTIONS.**

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Current situation in Low Earth Orbits raise 3 questions:

- How to deal with the current situation, driven by the saturation of some orbital regions, and subject to high collision risks? The status of the regulatory effort at international level is recalled, identifying the high level priorities.
- What to do with the remains of the past activities in orbit? It has been demonstrated that whatever the mitigation measures that can be considered, including a complete stop in orbital operations, the number of objects in space will continue growing with no control. The necessity to avoid collisions and clean space is described, with a focus on JCA (Just in time Collision Avoidance) and ADR (Active Debris Removal)
- What should be done to face the future drastic increase in number of orbital objects announced for the coming years and decades? Improving the SST (Space Surveillance and Tracking) and developing the STC&M (Space Traffic Coordination & Management) is fundamental, but probably not enough. A reinforced coordination at worldwide level is compulsory.