

THE ASIA-PACIFIC SPACE COMMUNICATION CENTER A PROPOSAL

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ABSTRACT

Japan proposes to establish an “Asia-Pacific Region Communication Center” based on equal partnership of APRSAF participants. The purpose of the Center will be to share up-to-date space-related information among APRSAF participants and provide such information at any time to any person. More specifically, the primary objectives of the Center are to

1. Promote public awareness of and acquire public support for space activities in the Asia-Pacific region through information archiving and distribution,
2. Promote cooperation through information sharing,
3. Support human resources development by providing information on training, seminars, and symposia, and
4. Support capability build-up by providing consultation.

To accomplish these primary objectives, the proposed Center’s functions should include

1. Gathering, archiving and distributing information related to space development and applications,
2. Supporting human resource development, and
3. Consulting by providing information and advice.

FUNCTIONS

Information Gathering, Archiving, and Distribution

The proposed Center would gather and archive information related to space development provided by APRSAF participants. This would include information on space development and applications, space-related organizations, space development plans, international cooperation, satellites,

launch vehicles, space science, Earth science, remote sensing, space environment utilization, and space technology. The proposed Center would then distribute this information by the effective use of information technology.

Support Human Resource Development

The proposed Center would provide information about and coordinate training activities, seminars, and symposia on space utilization.

Consultation

The proposed Center would provide information and advice on space applications technology.

FEASIBILITY STUDY TEAM

As the first step in realizing the proposed Center, Japan suggests establishing a feasibility study team among those who support this concept. The feasibility team would study the objectives and scope of the proposed Center, including the participants and targets. It would determine the functional requirements, including methods of information archiving and distribution. It would then evaluate and list possible areas of contribution by each supporter, such as providing information or resources. Finally, the team would select an appropriate location and draft an implementation plan.