



Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum

15 June 2005

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The 12th Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-12)
“Maximizing Space Benefits for the Society”
11-13 October 2005, Kitakyushu, Japan

Dear Colleagues,

The twelfth session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-12) will be held from 11 to 13 October, 2005 at the Kitakyushu International Conference Center, Fukuoka, Japan, in conjunction with the UN-IAF Workshop and the 56th International Astronautical Congress (IAC 2005). APRSAF-12 will jointly be organized and co-sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).

APRSAF-12 will be held under the main theme entitled “Maximizing Space Benefits for the Society” with the aim to focus on the use of space technology to cope with environmental problems, to prevent and mitigate risks of disasters, to improve quality of life, and to bring about better future for the next generation.

As we are reminded by the recent earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean, it is essential for the countries in the region, sharing similar climate and geological conditions to cooperate even more closely to mitigate risks of disasters at the regional level. Satellite systems, not affected by disaster, can be stable and highly reliable tool for disaster management, information gathering and communications in connection with ground systems.

APRSAF-12 is proposed to have a plenary session and 4 working groups (WGs): Earth Observation (EO), Communication Satellite Applications (CSA), Space Education and Awareness (SEA) and ISS Utilization (new). Further details of APRSAF-12 together with registration form will be made available through the APRSAF website at a later stage.

Senior officers from relevant Ministries, heads of space agencies and remote sensing agencies as well as representatives of interested institutions from government, academy and industries including private sectors are invited to take part in this Forum. International organizations in charge of space application, space agencies and related entities from outside the region are also welcome to participate in the Forum.

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We look forward to your active participation.

Best regards,

(Signature)

Masazumi Miyake

Director for International Space Cooperation,
Research and Development Bureau.

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology (MEXT)

(Signature)

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11-13 October 2005, Kitakyushu, Japan

Background

1. APRSAF was established in 1993 in response to the declaration adopted at the Asia Pacific International Space Year Conference (APIC) held in 1992 to enhance the development of each country's space programme and to exchange views on future cooperation in space activities in the region. APRSAF has held eleven annual meetings so far initiated jointly by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan (MEXT), Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and co-host organizations. The co-host countries have been Mongolia, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Australia.
2. APRSAF-11 was held from 3 to 5 November 2004 in Canberra, Australia, jointly organized by the Australian Cooperative Research Centre for Satellite Systems (CRCSS), MEXT and JAXA. Under the main theme “Toward Expansion of the Space Community”, more than 100 local and Asia-Pacific participants and observers took part in this Forum. As the result of the discussion in the three working groups; Earth Observation (EO), Communication Satellite Applications (SCA) and Space Education and Awareness (SEA), the APRSAF-11 participants, recognizing the importance of expanding the space communities in the region, have adopted the recommendations and actions to be undertaken by the working groups, participants and the APRSAF Secretariat as in the Attachment-1.

APRSAF-12

Under the main theme of “Maximizing Space Benefits for the Society”, APRSAF-12 will provide an opportunity to review the implementation of the recommendations and the actions from APRSAF-11 as well as to have further fruitful discussions. Through active discussions at both plenary and working group sessions, APRSAF-12 will also aim to realize concrete cooperative activities in various fields and to establish pilot projects in the area of natural disaster management for a secure and prosperous society. We also work toward developing human resources of the next generation which will contribute to the enhancement of space capability in this region. A tentative program is shown in the Attachment-2.

● **Working Groups**

APRSAF-12 is proposed to have 4 working groups (WGs): Earth Observation (EO), Communication Satellite Applications (CSA), Space Education and Awareness (SEA) and ISS Utilization (new). For more information of each WG activities, please visit APRSAF website.

● **Expected Attendance**

Senior officers from relevant Ministries, heads of space agencies, remote sensing agency, interested institutions from government, academy and industries including private sectors are highly

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welcome to participate in APRSAF-12.

● **Point of Contact**

If you have any inquires concerning APRSAF-12, please feel free to contact Mr. Takao Akutsu, Manager, or Ms. Mika Ochiai, International Relations Department, JAXA, at the following address: 1-6-5 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8260 Japan, Tel. +81-3-6266-6236, Fax. +81-3-6266-6908 and 6923, or e-mail: secretariat@aprsaf.org.

More detailed information on the program, registration and logistics of the workshop will be available in due course. Kindly visit our website at: <http://www.aprsaf.org>.



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Attachment-1

Recommendations of APRSAF-11 (November 3-5, 2004, Canberra, Australia)

All APRSAF-11 participants, recognizing the importance of expanding the space communities in our region, have adopted the following recommendations:

- I. To promote and strengthen concrete cooperative activities through APRSAF, such as pilot projects for effective disaster, environmental, and natural resource management; broadband rural communications; and educational promotion activities;
- II. To promote space applications which will meet the needs of end-users such as national disaster management authorities, the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) and people in isolated areas, by providing useful and efficient information and tools;
- III. To expand the space community by embracing developing countries, assisting them to embark on space activities and by conducting efforts such as the Space Education Forum to further the awareness of Space to the general public and to primary and secondary school students; and to invite appropriate specialists to APRSAF to discuss specific issues previously identified;
- IV. To strengthen the close relationship with global and regional frameworks such as Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), UN Regional Space Applications Program (RESAP), World Climate Research Program (WCRP) and International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), and to seek to harmonize APRSAF activities with them;
- V. To enhance capacity building activities to strengthen the capability of our region;
- VI. To explore possible funding opportunities for implementation of the recommendations;
- VII. To work toward realization of programs which were proposed by each WG.

Actions

A. Earth Observation WG

1. Workshop to be held in 2005 on disaster risk reduction and data sharing focusing on

- Timely dissemination of information for predicting hazards
- Enhanced and better integrated measurement using in situ, airborne and satellite data.

Action by MACRES in cooperation with JAXA

2. Definition and coordination of pilot projects among APRSAF members for rapid response to disasters.

Action by APRSAF-11 Co-chairs of EO WG (JAXA & CSIRO)

3. Distribute among member countries a proposal for standardization of data sets such as Digital Asia and means of sharing these data.

Action by JAXA

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B. Communication Satellite Applications WG

4. Next CSA working group meeting to invite attendance from commercial satellite operators and other industry participants to
 - explore methods to decrease broad band access cost and thereby help overcome the digital divide
 - consider dividing the session into applications and technology part.

Action by JAXA

5. Information on the ISU CONNECTS Team Project to be distributed to APRSAF members who will be asked to comment on its applicability to the Asia Pacific region.

Action by CRCSS

6. Establish an award recognizing the best example of enhanced rural broadband connectivity using satellite communications. The first award should be presented at APRSAF-12

Action by CRCSS with ASICC input through Mr. Barrett

7. Working Group web page to be regularly reviewed.

Action by APRSAF Secretariat

8. Form Working Group Mailing Lists for applications, basic technologies, systems and integration.

Action by APRSAF-11 Co-chairs of CSA WG (JAXA & CRCSS)

9. Distribute information on the status of Asia Broadband Program and call for suggestions on collaborative field projects

Action by MEXT/JAXA

10. Invite further proposals for i-Space applications using WINDS, ETS-VIII and QZSS; and provide regular updates on launch time frames

Action by JAXA

C. Space Education and Awareness WG

11. Evaluate success of Education Forum in Canberra and prepare for follow up activities at APRSAF-12

Action by Prof. Oyama

12. Explore methods for holding Education Forums in developing countries

Action by Prof. Oyama

13. Establish rules, timetables and criteria for a regional school competition on water-powered rockets, leading to an international event with prizes to be awarded at APRSAF-12

Action by Dr Sukkarieh

D. Information Exchange Meeting for Small Satellite Development

14. Make a mailing list for further communication and information exchange.

Action by JAXA

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Attachment-2

The Tentative Programme of the 12th Session of the Asia Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-12)

Kitakyushu International Conference Center
Kitakyushu, Japan

Day-1 : Tuesday, 11 October 2005

Plenary Session chaired by Dr. Hiroki Matsuo, Vice Chairman,
Space Activities Commission (SAC) / MEXT

0800-0900	-	Registration
0900-1000	-	Opening Plenary Statement by the Chairman -Speeches and Greetings Director General Sakata (MEXT) President Tachikawa (JAXA) - Speech by Co-organizer of APRSAF-11 Australia Working Group Reports from each WG Co-chair - Earth Observation W.G. Report: Dato` Mahmood (MACRES, Malaysia) - Communication Satellite Application W.G. Report : Kazunori Inagaki (JAXA) - Space Education & Awareness W.G. Report : Koh-Ichiro Oyama (JAXA)
1000-1030	-	Photo Session & Coffee Break
1030-1230	-	Plenary Session -Topic : Maximizing Space Benefits for the Society Speech by: Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Korea, LaoPDR, Malaysia Discussions
1230-1400	-	Lunch Break
1400-1530	-	Plenary Session (Cont'd) Speech by: Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam UN-ESCAP, ASEAN-SCOSA, MRC, ICIMOD Discussions
1530-1600	-	Coffee Break
1600-1730	-	Working Group Sessions (Parallel) A. Earth Observation W.G. B. Communication Satellite Application W.G. C. Space Education & Awareness W.G. D. ISS Utilization W.G.
1900-2100	-	Reception hosted by MEXT at Moji Harbor "Mojiko-Retoro"

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Day-2 : Wednesday, 12 October

0800-0900	-	Registration
0900-1030	-	Working Group Sessions (Parallel) A. Earth Observation W.G. B. Communication Satellite Application W.G. C. Space Education & Awareness W.G. D. ISS Utilization W.G.
1030-1050	-	Coffee Break
1050-1200	-	Working Group Session (Cont'd)
1200-1330	-	Lunch
1330-1700	-	Working Group Session (Cont'd) *1500-1520 Coffee Break
1900-2100	-	Reception hosted by JAXA at Rihga Royal Hotel Kokura

Day-3 : Thursday, 13 October

0900-1030	-	Closing Plenary Reports from Working Groups, General Discussions
1030-1050	-	Coffee Break
1050-1230	-	Discussion on cooperative programs in the Asia Pacific Region Adoption of Recommendations/Actions/Implementation Plans Closing Remarks by Chairman Adjourn
1230-	-	Lunch
Afternoon	-	Technical Tour "Kitakyushu Eco-Town Project"

APRSAF-12 Side Event

"APRSAF-12 Water Boost Rocket Competition"

Organizer: APRSAF Space Education & Awareness WG

Date: Saturday, 15 October 2005

Venue: Kitakyushu-city, Japan

Related Conferences

UN/IAF Workshop

Date: 14-15 October 2005

Venue: Kitakyushu-City, Fukuoka, Japan

http://www.iac2005.org/un_iaf_workshop/index.html

International Astronautical Congress (IAC)

Date: 17-21 October 2005

Venue: Fukuoka, Japan

<http://www.iac2005.org/>