Agenda - 12: Use of space technology in the United Nations system

Mr. Chair and distinguished delegates,

Indian delegation, while appreciating the achievement of other member states, would also like to inform this august gathering of its significant accomplishments since the last session of the committee in June 2022. India acknowledges and appreciates the efforts under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. India's Space Applications focuses on utilizing the technology for the benefit of society.

India, as an active member of the Regional Space Applications programme for Sustainable Development (RESAP) of the UN ESCAP, is contributing to promote operational utilization of space technology and equitable sharing of benefits from space technology towards achieving the SDGs through Regional Plan of Action (POA). One of the important application is regional drought mechanism which India is providing technical support to Sri Lanka Nepal, Myanmar and Cambodia.

Mr. Chair,

As part of India's commitment to support International Disaster Management, Indian satellite data is provided under International Charter and Sentinel Asia. India is also providing the required assistance to establish a network of weather stations in SAARC countries to support severe thunderstorm predictions.

India is reporting to United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD) to prioritise areas needing immediate action to combat land degradation and achieve land degradation neutrality status by 2030.

Mr. Chair,

In the field of capacity building, Indian Delegation would like to convey that as part of UNISPACE+50 initiative, India conducted three batches of the programme on "Capacity building programme on small satellite realization" (UNNATI-UNispace Nanosatellite Assembly & Training by ISRO). It is a unique contribution providing excellent opportunities to entities in developing countries to strengthen their capabilities in assembling, integrating and testing small satellites. With the completion of third batch of training during 15 October to 15 December 2022, a total 90 participants from 49 countries have benefitted from this residential programme at ISRO center (URSC, Bangalore) that includes a hands-on training on nanosatellite assembly.

ISRO continues to share its facilities, expertise in the application of space science and technology through the United Nations (UN) affiliated Center for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific (CSSTEAP) located in Dehradun. Till date CSSTEAP has conducted 67 PG Courses: 25 in RS&GIS, 12 in SATCOM, 12 each SATMET and SAS and 03 in Global Navigation Satellite System. Currently 26th RS&GIS course at Dehradun, 13th SATCOM and 4th GNSS course at SAC Ahmedabad are in progress. In addition, the Centre has conducted 79 short courses including webinar and workshops in the past 27 years. Apart from the regular courses

CSSTEAP has partnered with UNOOSA and ISRO to organize workshop in Space technology for climate change impacts. These programmes have benefited more than 3200 participants from a total of 38 countries in the Asia- Pacific region and 61 participants from 24 countries outside Asia Pacific region. We are happy to inform that CSSTE-AP will be organizing a new Short Course on "Remote Sensing Data Processing" during October 09-20, 2023 at National Remote Sensing Centre Hyderabad

Mr. Chair,

With the on-going ISRO's programme on space applications for societal benefits, ISRO will be happy to play a major role in implementing the space based support for capacity building and technical support for many of the plan of actions.

Thank you Mr. Chair and distinguished delegates.