

**Statement of APSCO**  
**The 57th Session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**  
**UN-COPUOS**

**Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,**

It is my great honour to report you the progress on activities of the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO). APSCO is pursuing to bring benefits from space science and technologies for socio-economic developments of its Members in the Asia and the Pacific region.

**Madam Chair,**

Over the past decade, APSCO has benefited its Members through different cooperative activities to make full use of its uniquely wide geographical coverage area, and to effectively share its resources.

APSCO focuses on the establishment of the Six Cooperative Networks in its Development Plan of Space Activities; Data Sharing Network, Space Segment Network and Inter-Connection of Ground Systems, Ground-Based Space Object Observation Network, Disaster Monitoring Network, Space Application Network, and Education and Training Network.

Through these strategic networks, APSCO has continued to witness history through remarkable achievements. The openly sharing of space-derived data through its Data Sharing Service Platform, in particular, could directly bring benefits to our Members, which mostly are space developing countries. More than 400,000 scenes of satellite images have been provided to APSCO Members for a wide range of applications, including disaster monitoring and management, monitoring and assessment of the environment, natural resources and agricultural yields, as well to facilitate their research works in the fields.

Some flagship initiatives, such as the APSCO Joint Small Multi-Mission Satellite (SMMS) Constellation Program will substantially enhance our earth observation capability. The system of at least 11 satellites for earth observation and responsive communication has

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already passed its preliminary design phase. The inter-connected ground station network distributed in all member states will play a crucial role in providing sustainable space-derived data to APSCO Members. Furthermore, there are other 13 cooperative projects currently running for exploration and exploitation of outer space through peaceful uses, covering the domains of space science, space technology, and space applications.

APSCO now started working for the coming year projects and next decade development plan.

During 2019, APSCO organized very successful meetings and educational programs such as; "Training on Forest Carbon Stock Assessment Using Geospatial Technologies", "Asia-Pacific Space Science Observatories (APSSO)", "The Training Course and Brainstorming Forum on Science Missions using CubeSats", "The APSCO-ISA Training Course on Advanced Remote Sensing Techniques", "Training Course on Disaster Management" organized by the APSCO in collaboration with UN-SPIDER and NDRCC. "Training Course on Space Law" organized by The APSCO and TÜBİTAK-UZAY

APSCO also organized the Conference on Space Law and Policy together with The United Nations and Turkey from 23-26 September 2019 in Istanbul, Turkey. Delegates attended from space agencies, governmental bodies, space law and policy experts, private sector representatives and researchers/students from academia involved in space activities. In total, around 160 participants from 45 countries and 5 international organizations attended the conference.

Degree education has been one of the most successful education programs of APSCO, which has always been supported by all Member states. APSCO runs MASTA and DOCSTA Programs with Beihang and Harbin and NPU Universities in China. And also, NPU started a PostDoc program for all member states.

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APSCO pays the highest attention to our new generation and cultivates the space talents mainly through 4 ways of education and training, namely, Degree Education Programs, Short-Term Training, New Generation Cultivating Activities and Real-Mission-Based Hands-On Training.

So far, there are 63 Doctor and 215 Master degree students recruited with full scholarship support, especially through cooperation with China Scholarship Council (CSC). Space Science School and Innovation Contest were conducted for more than 300 students from 14 countries. More than 1200 trainees from 32 Asia-Pacific and 5 Africa countries involved in more than 35 short-course training on various topics in space fields. The Student Small Satellite (SSS) project is in its implementation phase and used as a sustainable collaboration program with allied 19 universities and institutes for hands-on practice for our students.

One of the projects, "Site Validation Field Campaign of Radiometric Calibration of Satellite Sensors Project", was Successfully Organized in all potential radiometric calibration sites among the Member States and concluded with a workshop. The capacity in the field of radiometric calibration has been well built. The project is coming to its operational phase to ensure-long term collaboration to meet APSCO Member State needs in the area of radiometric calibration.

**Madam Chair,**

APSCO committed to promoting its capacity-building by making full use of geographic advantage in locations of its Member States in the Development Vision-2030, based on the principles of "equality and sharing".

APSCO has been achieving this commitment adhering to the principle of sharing collective achievement by joint efforts.

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APSCO promotes such vital projects as the Joint Small Multi-Mission Satellite (SMMS) Constellation Program, and the extension phase of Asia-Pacific Ground-Based Optical Space Object Observation System Project (APSSO) to also cover observation of Near-Earth Objects (NEOs), and the extended network of the Earthquake Signatures.

And Precursors Study by Integrating Satellite and Ground Observations; Based on remote sensing, meteorology, and navigation satellite constellation information, APSCO is constructing a comprehensive space technology-based disaster monitoring, mitigation and emergency response network to protect life and losses in its Member States from disasters.

APSCO will continue to promote talent cultivation by conducting various education and training activities, enabling more cooperation with Universities in MS countries to train high-quality professionals and continuously providing sponsorship for Master and Doctoral students.

Also, APSCO promises to carry out stimulated teaching, based on the rolling development of actual space mission, like the Student Small Satellites (SSS) Project, and to establish permanent innovation alliance among the universities of the Member States.

**Madam Chair,**

APSCO is proud of our role in supporting international cooperation over the past decade, and remaining host to one of the Asia-Pacific networks of space experts and decision-makers.

Under your excellent leadership, APSCO and its Members are actively engaged in and closely cooperate with the UNCOPUOS. APSCO has also entered into cooperation with the UN-SPIDER and UNESCAP. We are now in the process of coordination and strengthening of regional space cooperation in support of the region roadmap for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

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APSCO also takes part in other world-leading communities for exploiting space technology and its application for socio-economic development for humankind. APSCO is an Observer at the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) and the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG). Recently, APSCO has established cooperative relationships with other international organizations such as the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and the European Space Agency (ESA).

**Madam Chair, Distinguished Delegates,**

APSCO is now about to open a new chapter in space cooperation. APSCO and its Members are actively committed and actively support international space cooperation primarily through UNOOSA mechanism. That's why our new Strategic Development Plan will be structured this year for the next decade. We welcome all nations to cooperate with us for exploring and exploiting peaceful uses of outer space to bring and share benefits to enhancing prosperity together.

**Thank You.**