ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
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Statement

by

The Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

at

The fifty ninth Session of
the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS

on

Agenda Item 9:

Space-system-based disaster management support

7-18 February 2022
Vienna, Austria

"In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful"

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and gentleman

Space technologies have always been playing a crucial role in environmental applications including weather forecasts, climate change and disaster risk reduction, all is strongly supporting Sustainable Development objectives. Iranian Space Agency (ISA) has developed a national space-derived Earth observation system from satellite data for disaster risk reduction and emergency response, providing space-borne information to International Disaster Management (IDM) in the event of disasters. Programs of action related to disaster management includes: flood mapping, drought monitoring, subsidence measurement, Sand & Dust storm monitoring and evaluation, and seismic monitoring. On the one hand, all information will be sent to governmental institutions and some of them will also be displayed on web services for the public. On the other hand, ISA is also involved in forest fire monitoring, by providing hotspot information in forest areas.

There are a number of Asia - Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO) cooperative projects in the field of disaster management, which ISA as an active member of APSCO, has been contributed in all phases, from their implementation and transferred to the operation level.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates

ISA along with other related national entities are in progress to prepare procedural guidelines and standard operating procedures at the national level in building capability in emergency response, mapping and the utilization of space-borne and geospatial information, which will result in standard operating procedures for preparing maps for rescue and relief operations, flood inundation forecasting and monitoring based on upstream data, suitable campsite selection, monitoring of critical infrastructures and rapid damage assessment.

ISA has established long-term cooperation with disaster management stakeholders in the country to draw up such standard operating procedures. To prepare these procedures, we have applied the International Charter Space and Major Disasters, the Water Risks and Disasters Research Group of IWMI, Sentinel Asia and the Copernicus Emergency Management Services, APSCO Data

Sharing Service Platform (DSSP) as a worldwide collaboration among space agencies and space system operators.

While we express our gratitude for all supports from organizations and space system operators, in the case of emergencies, which have occurred in the country, we are still on the view that since COPUOS, , has a critical role in supporting international cooperation for Earth observation there is a need for further promote by the committee in satellite-derived data and information.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates

I want to express our sincere gratitude to the UNOOSA secretariat as well as the United Nations Platform for Space-borne Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) aimed at providing logistic and technical support in addition to contributing staff, for the workshop on "the use of space technology for drought, flood and water resources management" which was held in 9-11 August 2021 in a virtual format. The program acted as a bridge between the space and disaster management communities at regional, national and international levels.

Mr. Chairman

We commit to collaborate with UN-SPIDER to conduct regional level outreach and capacity-building based on the needs of the disaster management agencies on an international basis, in particular in developing countries through sharing of experiences, capacity-building and technical advisory support and services, which may result in recommendations to States with regard to their national policies for disaster risk reduction and emergency response efforts.

Thank You!