



## FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

**12th United Nations/European Space Agency Workshop on Basic Space Science  
hosted by the China National Space Administration,  
on behalf of the Government of P.R. China  
(8-12 September 2003, Beijing, P.R. China)**

### 1. Background of the Workshops

The United Nations, in cooperation with the European Space Agency, initiated in 1990 the organization of annual Workshops on Basic Space Science through the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. These Workshops, focusing on astrophysics and space science, have been held in India (1991) and Sri Lanka (1995) for Asia and the Pacific, Costa Rica (1992) and Honduras (1997) for Central America, Colombia (1992) and Argentina (2002) for South America, Nigeria (1993) and Mauritius (2001) for Africa, Egypt (1994) and Jordan (1999) for Western Asia, and Germany (1996) and France (2000) for Europe.

This UN/ESA Workshop has been endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly as part of the 2003 activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications.

### 2. Information and Indication of Interest Form Available on the World-Wide-Web

Updated information about the Workshop series can be obtained via the World-Wide-Web at <http://www.seas.columbia.edu/~ah297/un-esa/>. Individuals who wish to receive further information on Basic Space Science and/or wish to indicate their interest to participate in such Workshops may use the electronic means available on the above WWW site.

### 3. Key Dates for the Workshop

Call for Papers	01 February 2003
Deadline for Abstracts	01 May 2003
Notification to Authors	01 June 2003
Preliminary Programme Issued	01 July 2003
Deadline for Submission of Full Papers	01 August 2003
Workshop	8-12 September 2003

### 4. Local Organizer of the Workshop

China National Space Administration (CNSA)  
8A Fuchenglu, Haidianqu  
Beijing  
P.R. China 100037

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WWW: <http://www.cnsa.gov.cn>

## **5. Venue of the Workshop**

The Workshop will be held at  
Prime Hotel (\*\*\*\*\*)  
2 Wangfujing Avenue  
Beijing  
P.R. China 100006

Phone: +86-10-6513-6666  
Fax: + 86-10-6513-4248  
E-mail: [sales@phb.com.cn](mailto:sales@phb.com.cn)  
WWW: <http://www.primehotel.com.cn>

The Prime Hotel is close to the Wangfujing Shopping Centre, the Golden Street of Beijing, as well as to the China Arts Museum, respectively, and within walking distance of Tian An Men Square and Forbidden City.

## **6. Programme of the Workshop**

The Workshop will be structured around the following topics:

1. Results from the enhanced access to data and imagery from space missions through their astrophysical data archives.
2. Space missions in astrophysics and solar system studies: Opportunities and results.
3. Participation of developing nations in project development for international space-related projects through concurrent design.
4. Case studies of achievements over the past 10 years in basic space science in the regions of Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Western Asia.

During the Workshop, additional working group sessions will be held to assess past and develop future activities related to the above topics.

As part of the Workshop visits to Beijing Astronomical Data Center and Purple Mountain Observatory Beijing will be organized for interested participants.

## **7. Call for Contributed Papers**

This Workshop is the 12th in the series of UN/ESA Workshop on Basic Space Science and will be oriented to the opportunities of developing nations to participate in astrophysics and space science/technology. Efforts will focus on break throughs in space science/technology and the studies of the solar system. Emphasis will be placed on ways to make developing nations participate directly in the process of data acquisition and analysis and the use of astrophysical data systems through utilization of the WWW.

Basic Space Science represents a dynamic activity trying to solve age-old questions and, in this process, raising new questions that were not even considered by the scientists of only one generation ago. The pressure growing out of this interplay between questions and answers represent an important factor in the drive towards the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge, which is an essential aspect of sustainable development.

The utilization of data from space missions and astrophysical data systems represents a natural and efficient tool to initiate active participation in Basic Space Science. These data (imagery) and data systems supply a very effective mechanism to rapidly increase scientific literacy. This increase represents a very powerful mechanism in the creation of an accelerated but sustainable development process. By the in-depth reviews of the status of the understanding of discovery of the Universe from the solar system to its most remote extensions, it is expected that an understanding can evolve which will create new venues to allow the scientists in the developing nations to participate more directly, and at earlier stages in this voyage of discovery. It is expected to identify those frontiers of science in which the co-operation between science on a global scale can be applied in a fruitful way, with the resources effectively available to all involved in a modern communications environment.

Authors should state clearly for which session the paper is intended. Contributions that highlight interdisciplinary issues are particularly encouraged. Poster sessions will be organized for the duration of the Workshop. Authors are also requested to include with their submission a short, not longer than half-a-page, biography. These will serve as the presenter's introduction prior to the session.

Abstracts of no more than 600 words must be headed by the (i) Title, (ii) Author(s) Name(s), (iii) Institutional Affiliation(s), and (iv) Email Address(s). Abstracts must be submitted in electronic format to Virginia.Ofoedu@unvienna.org.

## **8. Language of the Workshop**

English will be the working language for the Workshop.

## **9. Health Requirement and Related Topics**

Potential Workshop participants are advised to check with the embassy/consulate of the People's Republic of China for obtaining the visa, if required. Note that adequate health insurance is the responsibility of the participants.

There is no registration fee to participate at and contribute to this Workshop.