

## UN Industry Symposium Presentation

Mr. Chairman,

I appreciate the invitation of the Subcommittee and the Office of Outer Space Affairs to participate in this symposium.

The International Astronautical Federation – as many of you know – is a non governmental organization with 180 members including space agencies, space companies, research institutes and professional societies around the world.

The Federation provides opportunities for information exchange, we promote space activities and we nurture collaboration on space projects at the global level.

The IAF offers several mechanisms for companies and organizations in emerging space nations to pursue their interests:

1. We organize an annual global space conference – the International Astronautical Congress – that gathers 2000 space professionals – scientists, engineers, managers, policy officials, educators, students and young professionals – to discuss current and future space activities. During the week long annual IAC our Federation provides:

- Unique opportunities for emerging space nation companies to promote their interests throughout the world, to seek potential partners and to learn more about competitors.
- A rotating annual venue – moving to different regions each year – that provides opportunities to focus on national and regional space developments as well as global activities.

- Opportunities for emerging space nations to serve as hosts of the annual Congress.

2. The IAF has established technical committees that exchange information and pursue common interests on a year round basis. Currently we have 17 technical committees. We are receiving periodic requests from technical experts in various space and space-related disciplines to start new committees and are doing so at the rate of 2-3 each year. These committees – which are composed of experts in the focus area – offer excellent opportunities for emerging space nation companies to meet their counterparts from other parts of the world.

3. Our Federation has established – under the leadership of Professor UR Rao of India – a special committee that focuses on the interests of emerging space nations. This committee also works with OSSA to organize an annual workshop on the use of space technology for national and regional development. This so called IAF/UN workshop is held each year just before our annual congress. Last year it took place in India at the National Remote Sensing Center in Hyderabad. Those of you who participated will I'm sure agree that it was a very productive session. This year the workshop will be held on 26 and 27 September 2008 in Glasgow Scotland under the organization of the British National Space Centre. I would encourage emerging space country government and industry colleagues to participate.

Mr. Chairman, Honorable Delegates and colleagues, please know that the International Astronautical Federation is committee dot expanding our interactions with and to promoting the role of emerging space nations. We offer unique mechanisms for emerging space nation official to pursue their interests.

My IAF volunteer colleagues and I look forward to working more and more closely with you, to listening to your ideas and suggestions, and to promoting your interests as we together seek to use space technology to improve the lives of all our citizens, to expand our common knowledge of the universe and to inspire a new generation of global space leaders.