United Nations/Austria/European Space Agency Symposium on Space Applications to Support the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

SPACE SYSTEMS: PROTECTING AND RESTORING WATER RESOURCES

Graz, Austria, 13-16 September 2005

OBJECTIVES OF THE SYMPOSIUM
(i) To review progress made in the development and implementation of pilot projects that use space technologies to enhance management, protection and restoration of water resources; to provide drinking water; to mitigate water-related emergencies; and to combat desertification;

(ii) To examine what low-cost space-related technologies and informational resources are available for addressing water-related challenges in developing countries;

(iii) To examine what type and level of training is required for which target groups in using space technologies for addressing water-related challenges;

(iv) To identify a functional partnership that could be established to promote the use of space-related technology and information for water resource management;

(v) To enhance the participation of women in decision-making on water resource management; and

(vi) To select a topic for consideration by future similar symposia, possibly from among the themes to be considered by the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2006 and 2007.
Graz Symposium 2003:
[Space application for sustainable development; water resource management; management of natural resources and environment; enhancement of food security; disaster management; improvement of health and medical services; and funding projects to promote sustainable development]

Graz Symposium 2004:
[Providing critical information in a timely manner to decision makers; transboundary water management and remote sensing in diplomacy, water resources management in Africa; protecting and optimizing water resources; and water, sanitation and health]

[Graz Vision; elements to be considered for developing and implementing pilot projects for water resource management with the use of space applications; follow-up mechanism]

United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
[considers agenda item on “Space and water” since 2004]

International decade “Water for Life”

United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
[considered water in 2004 and 2005]
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United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development themes to be considered in 2006 and 2007

- Energy for sustainable development

- Industrial development

- Air pollution/atmosphere

- Climate change

- Other areas identified in the WSSD Plan of Implementation
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THANK YOU!