“MECHANISMS FOR REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION”

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OUTLINE

I. Benefits from outer space.
II. International cooperation schemes.
III. Current mechanisms for space regional cooperation.
IV. Status of space interregional cooperation.
V. Opportunities to strengthen interregional cooperation: what can be done?
VI. Conclusions.
PART I. BENEFITS FROM OUTER SPACE

• Space products and services.
• Role of international cooperation.
10th United Nations Workshop on Space Law:
“Mechanisms for Regional and Interregional Cooperation and Coordination”

Satellites
Space probes
Reusable space vehicles
Satellite images
Launch vehicles and launch pads
Space stations
Ground stations

Source: ABAE 2014
10th United Nations Workshop on Space Law: “Mechanisms for Regional and Interregional Cooperation and Coordination”

Space services
- Launch services
- Satellite operation
- Weather forecast
- Equipment qualification and test
- Capacity building

Value added images
- Space tourism

Telecommunication
- Data for research
- Global positioning

Source: ABAE 2014
ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Why is it good to cooperate in the space arena at international level?

- Peaceful uses of outer space.
- Establishment of win-win strategies.
- Sharing costs and risks.
- Technology development and capacity building.
PART II.
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SCHEMES

- Bilateral level.
- Multilateral level:
  a. Regional.
  b. Interregional.
- United Nations Regional Groups of Member States.
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SCHEMES: BILATERAL
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SCHEMES: MULTILATERAL
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SCHEMES: REGIONAL GROUPS

African Group/ 54 countries

Asian-pacific Group/55 countries

Eastern European Group/ 23 countries

Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)/ 33 countries

Western European and Others Group (WEOG)/ 29 countries
PART III.
CURRENT MECHANISMS FOR SPACE REGIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION
MECHANISMS FOR SPACE REGIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION

- Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF).
- Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO).
- European Space Agency (ESA).
- Space Conference of the Americas (SCA).
- UN Regional Centers for space science and technology education.
The Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF)

- Established in 1993. Over 40 countries.
- Space Applications, Space Technology, Space Environment Utilization, and Space Education.
- Annual meetings hosted by countries/ MEXT and JAXA.
The Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF)

- Open and flexible cooperative framework.
- Voluntary and cooperative activities.
- Space programs to solve regional needs:
  a. Sentinel Asia for disaster management.
  b. Space Applications For Environmental issues (SAFE).
  c. Climate Regional Readiness Review for Key Climate Missions.
  d. Kibo-ABC (Asian Beneficial Collaboration through “Kibo” Utilization.)
The Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO)

- 9 Member States.
- Headquarter in Beijing, China.
The Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO)

- To promote collaborative space programs among Member States to benefit the region and the rest of the world. Industrial development.


- Data sharing, space segment and ground infrastructure network, disaster monitoring programs, capacity building.
EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESA)

- Founded in 1975. The Convention on the establishment of ESA.
- European intergovernmental organization. 22 member states.
- Headquarter in Paris, France.
EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESA)

- 5 research centers: ESTEC (Netherlands), ESRIN (Italy), ESOC (Germany), EAC (Germany), ESAC (Spain).
- To promote, for exclusively peaceful purposes, cooperation among European States in the space area.
- Areas: Remote sensing, human space flight, launchers, navigation, space science, space engineering & technology, Operations, Telecommunications & Integrated Applications, Preparing for the Future, Space for Climate.
SPACE CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS (SCA)

- 1990s. Support of the UNGA.
- 7 Conferences. VIII Conference held in Managua, Nicaragua, 2015.
- To promote the peaceful uses of outer space among Member States; to use space applications to support regional social programs; to promote the development of space law, and finally to strength capacity building in space science and technology (Becerra, 2013; ABAE, 2015).
SPACE CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS (SCA)

- Organization: Pro-tempore Secretariat. Troika (3 member states).
- Regional forum for space coordination and cooperation.
- Regional Space Agency.
UN Regional Centers for Space Science and Technology Education

- Resolutions 45/72 and 50/27 of the UNGA.
- Programme of Space Application: objectives and action plan for the establishment of regional centers.
- Six Regional Centers for Space Science and Technology Education.
- Capacity building in space science and technology to advance social and economic development.
UN Regional Centers for Space Science and Technology Education

Central America
Mexico (CRECTEALC)

South America
Brazil (CRECTEALC)

Africa
Morocco (CRASTE-LF)
Nigeria (ARCESSTE-E)

Asia
China (RCSSTEAP)
India (CSSTEAP)
Jordan (RJGC)

Source: UNOOSA 2015
PART IV.
SPACE INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION

- Current status.
- Possible reasons.
SPACE INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION: POSSIBLE REASONS

- Availability of information.
- Weak interest on inter-regional alliances.
- Weak promotion of space infrastructure and capabilities installed in different regions.
- Political and cultural issues.
PART V.
OPPORTUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION

WHAT CAN BE DONE?
OPPORTUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION

- Role of COPUOS.
- Diplomatic Missions.
- To identify common areas:
  a. Space Law & Policy/capacity building.
  b. Space Exploration/knowledge.
  c. Space Applications/needs on Earth.
  d. Space engineering/space debris.
  e. Others.
OPPORTUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION

- To expand opportunities for members states outside the region.

- To promote the benefits derived from interregional cooperation programs. Space outreach and policy development.
PART VI.
CONCLUSIONS
CONCLUSIONS: REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION

- Regional cooperation programs are effective mechanisms to enhance space capabilities and to solve specific needs within each region.

- Interregional cooperation mechanisms need to be reinforced.

- Potential reasons include availability of information, weak interest on inter-regional alliances, weak promotion of space infrastructure and capabilities installed in different regions, and finally political and cultural issues.
CONCLUSIONS: REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION

- UNCOPUOS and Diplomatic Missions play a key role in promoting interregional alliances.
- Interregional cooperation is a potential scenario to promote peaceful uses of outer space, to build transparency measures, to increase space security and governance (more coordination), and to strength space law and space policy development.
- Long term sustainability of outer space activities.
REFERENCES

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• APSCF. https://www.aprsaf.org/
• ESA. http://www.esa.int/ESA
• UNOOSA:
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