

8 June 2011

English only

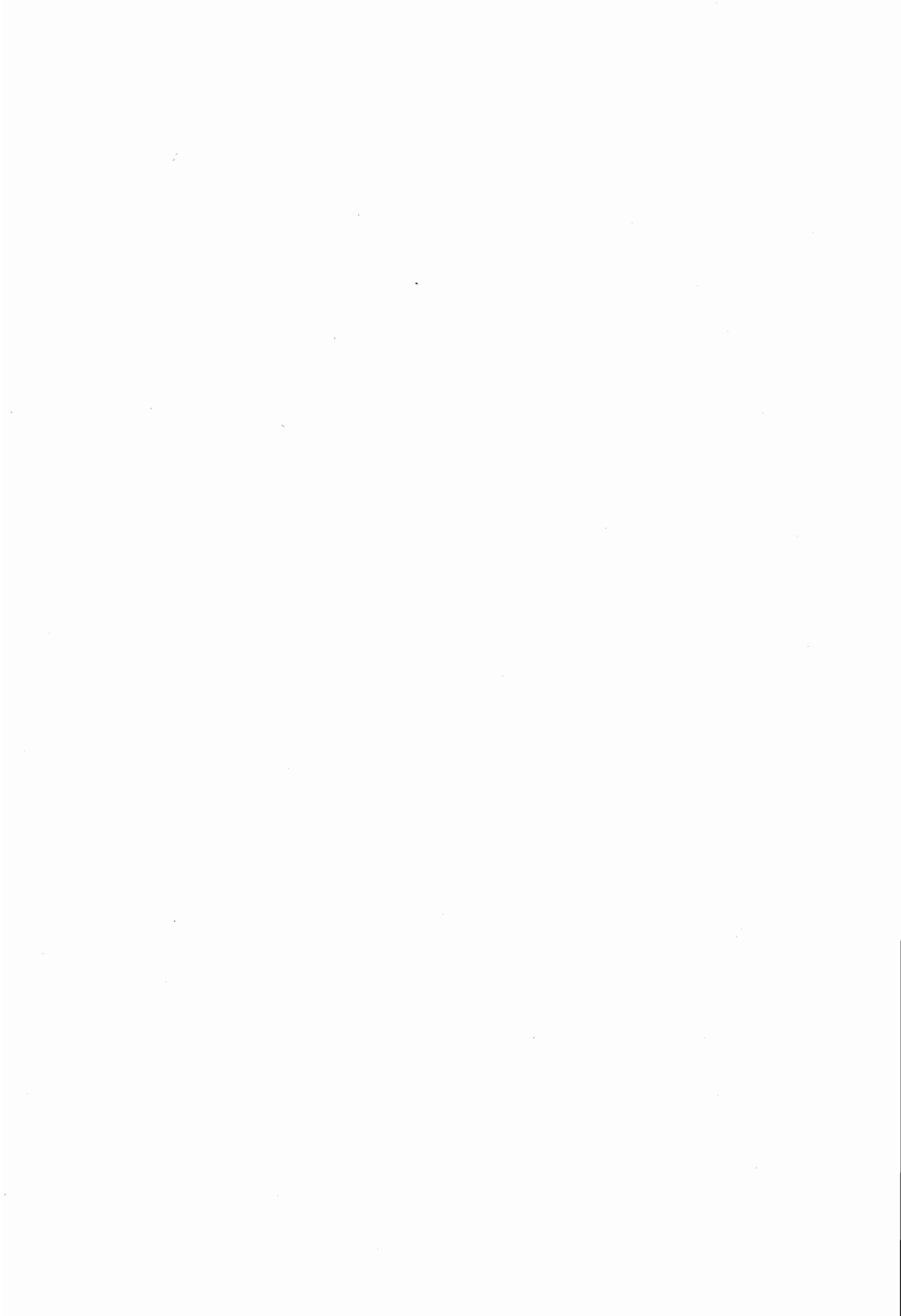
**Committee on the Peaceful Uses
of Outer Space**
Fifty-fourth session
Vienna, 1-10 June 2011

**Request for observer status with the United Nations
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: application
of the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab
World**

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its fifty-third session, in 2010, the Committee took note of the application of the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World for permanent observer status with the Committee. The related correspondence and the statutes of that organization were before the Committee in conference room paper A/AC.105/2010/CRP.5.
2. The Committee agreed to invite the Association of Remote Sensing Centres in the Arab World to participate in its fifty-fourth session, as well as in the sessions of the Subcommittees in 2011, with a view to the Association's provision of additional written information, and that a decision on its application would be made by the Committee at that session (A/65/20, para. 310).
3. The present document contains further information provided to the Secretariat by the Association. Conference room paper A/AC.105/2010/CRP.5 is also attached to this document.







الاتحاد العلمي
البحوث العربية



رابطة مراكز الاستشعار
عن بعد في الوطن العربي

FEDERATION OF ARAB SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCILS

THE ASSOCIATION OF ARAB REMOTE SENSING CENTERS

التاريخ : / /
الموافق : 2011 / 06 / 08

الرقم الاشاري:

Arab Remote Sensing Association Tripoli - Libya

Ref. 4.osc 2011
Date 8June 2011

Honorable Mrs. Othman Mizlan.
Director of Office for Outer Space Peaceful Purposes- UN
Vienna - Austria.

Dear /Madam

The Secretariat General of the presents its compliments to your kind person and the staff of the office for Outer space Peaceful Purposes, and I would like to refer to the application submitted by the Arab Remote Sensing Association to acquire the status of the capacity of Observer in the Committee on Outer space Peaceful Purposes. To encourage such initiative the Fifty-third Session of the Committee agreed, , to invite the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World to participate in its fifty-fourth session of the Committee, as well as in the sessions of the Subcommittees in 2011, with a view to the Association's provision of additional written information, and that a decision on its application would be made by the Committee at that Session.

In view of the application submitted by the Association to obtain permanent observer status with the UN Committee on the Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes and both its technical and legal subcommittees, we would like to point out that the Association of Arab Remote Sensing Centers enjoys an independent legal and financial personality. The Association presented a report on relevant legal and practical elements. The report highlighted the nature of the Association as well as aspects of the work are carried out by the Association.

we look forward to seeing the Association has received a Permanent Observer seat in the Committee of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes to enhance its position and role in activating of the Arab Association for Remote Sensing and the relevant International Organizations and bodies, also, looking forward to a more fruitful cooperation between your Committee and the



المركز الليبي للاستشعار
عن بعد و علوم الفضاء
ICRSS

E-mail:rabeta@arabeta.org
www.arabeta.org

++218 21 4909064
++218 21 4909053
82819 : طرابلس - ليبيا



الاتحاد العربي
للبحوث العلمية التطبيقية



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عن بعد في الوطن العربي

FEDERATION OF ARAB SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCILS

THE ASSOCIATION OF ARAB REMOTE SENSING CENTERS

/ / : التاريخ
/ / : الموطن

الرقم الظاهري:

Committee Until such goal is achieved , the Association aiming at attending the sessions of both the technical and legal subcommittees as well as the Fifty-fourth session UN Committee on the Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes as agreed by the Fifty-third session. Due to the fact that no invitation has been received, the Association could not attend the above mentioned sessions. Therefore we would appreciate if you kindly forward an invitation to enable the representative of the Association to attend Fifty-fourth session UN Committee on the Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes in order to follow up the steps made towards the acquiring of a Permanent Observer seat and to participate in the important work carried out by the Committee.

Your kind and prompt action is highly appreciated

*Please accept my sincere respect and Appreciation
Yours faithfully*

*El Hadi Gashut
The Secretary*



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عن بعد و علوم الفضاء
ICRSSS

E-mail: arabeta@arabeta.org
www.arabeta.org

+218 21 4909054 ☎
+218 21 4909053 ☎
82819 : طرابلس - ليبيا ☎



اتحاد مجالس
البحث العلمي العربية



رابطة مراكز الاستشعار
عن بعد في الوطن العربي

Federation Of Arab Scientific Research Councils

Association Of Arab Remote Sensing Centers

التاريخ: 2011/04/03
الموافق: / /

الرقم الاشاري: 04...04...04

UN Space Office Affairs in Vienna,

Mrs. Othman Mizlan.

Director of Office for Outer Space Peaceful Purposes- UN

Vienna - Austria.

Dear Madam

With reference to the application made by Arab Association of Remote Sensing to acquire the status of Permanent Observer in the Committee on Use of Outer Space for peaceful purposes, and to the conclusion reached by the Committee during its 53rd session held from 9 to 18/6/2010. The Committee took note of the application of the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab world and agreed to invite the Association to participate in its fifty-fourth session, as well as in the sessions of the Subcommittees in 2011, with a view to the Association's provision of additional written information, and that a decision on its application would be made by the Committee at that session.

We also refer to your kind letter addressed to the Association Secretary on 30/12/2010 explaining specific information that the Association has to provide as a response to the conclusion of the 53rd session of the International Committee for using Outer Space for peaceful purposes . According to your kind communication, the required information is divided into three main topics.

The first is related to the legal status of the Association including its relation with the Arab Scientific Councils Union. The second focuses on the activities which have recently been undertaken by the Association in the framework of assuring its governmental international activity. The third relates to the contacts and means of communications with the Association.





اتحاد مجالس
البحث العلمي العربية



رابطة مراكز الاستشعار
عن بعد في الوطن العربي

Federation Of Arab Scientific Research Councils

Association Of Arab Remote Sensing Centers

/ / : التاريخ

/ / : المواليق

الرقم الاشاري :

In response to your kind letter, the secretariat of the Association prepared the attached report to answer the concerns regarding the topics mentioned above.

While we refer this Report as required, we would like to bring to your kind attention that the Association for Remote Sensing in the Arab world have not received an invitation letter to attend the (50th Session of Legal subcommittee from 28/03 – 08/04/2011) . Therefore we send the attached Report through ordinary means.

Please Madam accept my highest consideration

Hadi Ghasut

The secretary

Association for Remote Sensing Centers

in the Arab World



Association for Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World

Report presented to

The UN Committee on Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes

Prepared

By

The Secretariat of the Association

Preface

- On 3/5/2010 the Secretary of Remote Sensing Centers Association in the Arab world sent a letter to the Manager of the UN Space Office Affairs in Vienna, explaining the creation of the Association under the umbrella of Arab Scientific Councils Union and its role in the Arab World.
- The letter highlighted the Scientific Activities and importance of the role of the Association in coordination between its members and also expressed a desire of members of the Association in obtaining a permanent Observer seat in the International Committee on the Use of Outer Space for peaceful purposes.
- On 17/5/2010 the Secretary of the Remote Sensing Centers Association in the Arab World sent another letter highlighting the desire of Arab Remote Sensing Centers Association to acquire the status of a **Permanent Observer** and to **provide** the Association with the opportunity to participate at the 53rd session of the International Committee for use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes
- The Secretary of the Association received an invitation to attend the meetings of the 53rd Session of the International Committee for the Use of Outer Space for peaceful purposes. This meeting was held in Vienna from 09 to 18/06/2010 where he introduced the Association to the UN Committee for Use of Outer Space for Peaceful purposes. Following discussion it was concluded that providing more detailed information about the Association would enhance its acceptance as Permanent Observer in the International Committee for the Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes .

- On 30/12/2010 the Secretary of the Arab Remote Sensing Centers Association received a letter from Space Affairs Office explaining specific information that the Association has to provide as a response to the conclusion of the 53rd session of the International Committee for using Outer Space for peaceful purposes .
- This information is divided into three main topics. The first is related to the legal status of the Association including its relation with the Arab Scientific Councils Union. The second focuses on the activities which have recently been undertaken by the Association in the framework of assuring its governmental international activity. The third relates to the contacts and means of communications with the Association.

This report will answer the concerns regarding the topics mentioned above

Part I : The Legal Status of the Association

Establishment of the Association and its relation with the Union Arab Scientific Research Councils

The Arab Association for Remote Sensing Centers is one of several associations that were created under the auspices of the Arab Union for Scientific Research Councils. The Arab Association for Remote Sensing Centers was established under the Resolution issued by the above mentioned Union Council No. (6) G25/2002 regarding Creation of Associations.

The resolution stipulates in clause 6 that : **the Council agrees and approves the Libyan Center for Space and Remote Sensing as a focal point for the Remote Sensing Researches in the Arab world and to authorize the General Secretariat of the Union to carry on the requirements for creating the Association.**

The Libyan Arab Socialist People's Jamahiriya was chosen to be the **host state** of domicile for the new Association under the auspices of the Union.

The Union for Arab Scientific Research Councils has prepared a draft template to be used by the associations including the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World as a guideline when preparing their own Articles of Association. Being under the auspices of the Union does not mean that the Association is fully dependent on the Union.

This fact is expressly voiced by Article 1 of the Article of Association of the Arab Remote Sensing Association. It stipulated that: **the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab world is one of the Arab scientific institutions**

and as such the Association enjoys independent legal personality and financial liability in carrying out its functions.

To explain the relation between the Union of Arab Scientific Research Councils and the Association we refer to Article 7 of the latter Articles of Association. The said Article provides that **the Authority of the Association consists of the Directors of the centers or the persons responsible of the Remote Sensing in the member states in the Union of Arab Scientific Research Councils “representatives of the states” or their authorized persons who are attending the meetings. Each state is entitled to one vote regardless of the number of centers or organizations attending the meetings, if votes are equal the side with which the Secretary of the Association votes, shall prevail.**

This Article shows two elements : **the first** is the relation between the Union and the Association in terms of membership and **the second** is the international nature of the Association as governmental regional organization lodging in its membership states and governmental bodies specialized in the field of remote sensing and space sciences.

The relation between the Association and the Union of the Arab Scientific Research Councils also voiced in Article 16 of the Articles of Association of the Arab Remote Sensing Association. The said Article specifying a determined percentage of the contributions paid by the member states in the said Union to subsidize the Association.

Such close relation between the Association and the Union demonstrates itself in another provision(Article 22) obligating the Association to deposit its Article of Association with the Union of Arab Scientific Research Councils (*annex No. 1 for this report letter of the General Secretary of the Arab Union of*

Scientific Research Councils regarding the relation of the association with the union).

Second: The Association is a governmental organization

The express provision of Article 7 of the Articles of Association of the Arab Remote Sensing Association provides that the **Authority is the supreme authority of the Association as such; the Association consists of the representatives of the states.** This provision clearly indicates that the Association is purely governmental organization lodging in its membership sovereign states represented in the Association by governmental officials at specialized bodies and centers within each state. Such **governmental nature of the Association** appears through many provisions in its Articles of association.

The activities and issues addressed by the Association during its meetings enhance this fact as mentioned below

Third: Structure of the Association

The Arab Association of Remote Sensing Centers consists of:

Secretariat of the Association: is an administrative body that renders the daily administrative work and preparation of meetings headed by the Secretary who is responsible before the Authority

The Authority of the Association:

The supreme Authority in the Association **consists of: Directors of the centers or the persons who are responsible of the Remote Sensing in the member states at the Arab Union of Scientific Research Councils , Representatives of the states or their authorized persons in attending meetings.** There is one vote for each state regardless of the number of the centers or the organizations attending the meetings, if the votes are equal, the side with which the Secretary of the Association votes shall prevail.

Agreement With the Host State

The Secretariat of the Arab Remote Sensing Association prepared a draft headquarter agreement to be submitted to the competent authority in Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The draft Agreement stipulates rights and obligations of both the host states and the Association.

Part II: Activities of the Association

The Association derives elements of its activities from its goals set forth in Article (4) of its Articles of Association which identified these objectives as follows:

The establishment of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab world Association aimed to achieve the following

1. To establish a structure and framework to enhance the cooperation between Scientific Research Institutions in the Arab World and allow cooperation with similar institutions in other countries.
2. To determine the objectives and priorities for scientific research in the field of remote sensing and feeder systems and work to achieve such objectives and priorities.
3. To apply a joint policy focusing on developmental aspects among the members , taking into consideration, the available means and capabilities
4. To enable researchers in the Arab world to participate in development process, employing and absorbing sciences

technology and its manufacturing in an effective manner in the technical and scientific community.

5. To hold specialized scientific meetings periodically and organization of methodological education , designed to accommodate developed types and methods of the scientific research and to further spread in the structures of the search.
6. To encourage joint Arab scientific research action, the exchange of results and coherence of information between the networks of scientific libraries in order to promote joint Arab scientific researches, exchange their results, and achieve information linkage between such scientific library networks.
7. To issue a periodical scientific journal related to the Association activity.
8. To create specialized Internet web sites for the Association aiming at circulating the information and exchange views between specialist to most possible extent.
9. To achieve and accomplish the scientific tasks referred to the Association by Arab Scientific Councils Union related to the field of the Association objectives framework.

In order to achieve its objectives the Association since its establishment, accomplished the following:

First: in the framework of linking cooperative relations with other organizations relevant to its activities, their application or supporting such activities:

Since its establishment, the Association initiated an active role to link its components effectively with cooperation programs with other institutions and organization in the Arab World including:

- The Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining
- The Arab Organization for Education, Culture and Sciences.
- The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development
- The Arab Center of Arid Zones and Dry Lands Studies.
- The Sahel Sahara (costal and desert) Telescope.
- The Sub-regional Remote Sensing Center for North African States,
- The Arab Union for Technical Education.
- The African Organization for Maps and Sensing.

Despite the fact that the Association's age is of approximately five year it has initiated and created several scientific activities and practical steps on the ground.

The Association largely contributed in term of proposing and coordinating many important projects studies on the territorial level in the region relating to its area of specialty through close coordination among institutions specialized in the field of remote sensing, its applications and supporting activities within countries of the region.

The Associations mechanism of action is activated by resolutions and recommendation made through the Annual Meetings of the **Authority (the Supreme Power within the Association)** Such

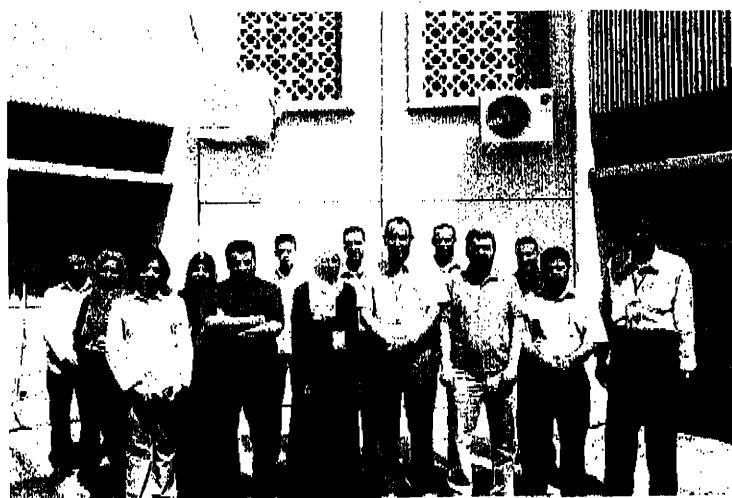
Authority approves the Association Annual Plan. Such Plan, once approved, shall be entrusted with Secretariats to implement with support, coordination and assistance of Member States.

Secondly: the field of human resources development.

Many courses and events were organized; these courses targeted primarily the technical staff, involved by nature of their work, in the use of remote sensing technologies, radar applications and their supporting system in the fields of planning, mineral resource and classification of green plant cover. These events have been attended by a number of concerned and specialist persons from Arab countries. Several member states organized and availed their premises and facilities as venues for such courses including:

- The Association organized in cooperation with the Libyan Center for Remote sensing and Space Sciences, a training course about (**Using Remote Sensing Technologies, Geographical Information in Mapping and Agricultural Planning " Libya 25- 30/11/2006 "**)
- Workshop on using technologies of Remote sensing and , Geographical Information Systems in Exploration and Mineral Investigation (Morocco 2 – 8/7/2007)

- Seminar with reference to (space technology investment and development in Arab countries" Libya 19 – 20 /11/2007 ")
- Training course took place in 2008 at Mohamed V University Morocco in cooperation with the Arab Organization for Industry. The course was given by specialist from the Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and Space Science. It was jointly sponsored by the said University and the Arab Organization for Industry and Mining.
- workshop was organized at the end of 2009 by the Association in cooperation with the General Organization for Remote Sensing in Syria



- A training course in the field of data analysis in geographical information systems. Held on 6–10/6/2010 in Tripoli Libya in cooperation with the Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences. It was attended by (17) specialists from Syria, Sudan, and Libya



- The Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences hosted the 2nd training course in the field of Satellite Images Data fusion, during the period from 3 – 7 /10/2010 in Tripoli / Libya attended by (10) specialists from some Arab countries that are members in the Association.

Thirdly: in the field of scientific projects and studies

The Secretariat of the Association highlighted, through a proposed Annual Plan, submitted to the Association Authority, specific proposals regarding certain possible projects that can be jointly carried out among two or more member states, or in an integral framework between specialized bodies within these member states. Upon approval of the Authority a number of these joint projects were implemented as follows::

- Participation in a joint **project** with the Arab Organization for Industrial development and Mining for producing the first ever **Arab World Geological and Mineral Digital Map**. The map was finalized by the institutions specialized in these sciences in Morocco, Tunisia and Libya.

- **A project on studying the Coastal Environment in the border area between Tunisia and Libya.** This project was conducted on an integral basis between the Tunisian National Center for Maps Drawings and Remote Sensing and the Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences. This study was carried out in cooperation with the sub-regional North Africa Center and was finalized by the end of last year.
- **A joint project for studying and mapping Green plant cover.** The study is being conducted by integral efforts between the General Authority for Remote Sensing in Syria and the Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and remains in process)
- **Project for studying Desertification and the Control of Sand dunes movement.** The arrangement for conducting the study is currently taking place in a border area between Libya and Egypt. Both the National Authority for Remote Sensing in Egypt and Space Sciences and the Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences will be conducting the above mentioned study.
- **A broad data base project is being created by the association secretariat on national, organizations, institutions and centers specialized in the field of space technologies in member states.** This project is aiming to achieve further integration and cooperation through Internet network .

Fourth: Scientific Cooperation

A Cooperation Framework with African Organization for maps and remote sensing

The Secretary of the Association has held extensive meetings with the General Secretary of the African Organization for Maps and Remote Sensing. These meetings addressed the possibility of unifying the Afro-

Arabian efforts in the field of maps drawings and remote sensing as well as coordination , and exploration of joint work under an Afro-Arab framework.,

Proposals were made for projects that serve the countries of the region in order to implement the recommendations issued following the afro-Arab summit held in Serta City / Libya where an agreement has taken place in order to take the necessary measures for the implementation of such programs. Following the Afro-Arab summit held in Serta City/ Great Jamahiriya October 2010 an agreement was made to take the necessary measures to implement the proposals for the projects that serve the countries of the region

- **Cooperation Agreement with the Arab Union for Technical education**

The Association reached an agreement with the Arab Union for Technical Education in order:

- To develop with liaison/ contact, consultation and cooperation to obtain the objectives that both the Association and the Union would like to achieve .
- To exchange experiences, field visits and continuous coordination in mutual interest issues to achieve continuous harmonization in their programs.
- To secure permanent work to provide technical support to each other, unite their capabilities, and avail field experiences. with each other.

- **Contacts with some Arab organizations and associations**

The Association contributed to the work which led to the issuing of the **Digital Geological and Mineral Map** of the Arab World by using remote sensing technologies and geographic information systems under the supervision of the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and

Mining. Due to such considerations, the Director General of the said Organization to officially invite the Association to attend the meetings of the technical committee formed to modernize and develop the Digital Geological Map that has been previously accomplished. The discussion that took place also addressed the initiating of the preparation of two other maps, namely the Investment and the Metallurgical Maps for the Arab World. Within the same context, the Secretariat of the Association has commenced an intensive coordination in order to introduce member states' institutions working in the field of remote sensing to participate in such work.. The Association Secretary was also nominated as one of the members of the preparatory committee for the 11th Arab Conference for Mineral Resources held on 25 – 26/10/2010 in Tripoli. He attended all its meetings and has participated with the organizing committee in all organizing and supervising efforts to hold the Conference in term of preparation and organizing, as well as urging the representatives of Association member states to participate in their area of specializations.

Fifthly: in the field of organizing and participation in conferences, seminars, meetings, symposiums and workshops

The Association has contributed in holding the following events

- The International Symposium for Geographical Terms / Nominations
- International Conference for Remote Sensing Technologies and Geographic information systems, held in Libya 5 – 7/10/2009.
- The Conference on Scientific Research and its Role in Controlling Desertification and preventing sand dunes movement in Libya (21 - 23/6/2010).
- The 5th Arab Conference for Mineral Resources, Libya 2010

- **Sixthly : in the field of qualification ,training and**
- **Formation and construction of educational center in the field of space Sciences (in Arabic).**
- The Association Authority (the Supreme Power of the Association) has approved in principle during its Fourth Meeting held in Tunisia on November 2009 to establish an educational Center in the field of Space Sciences (in Arabic). Once established it will be supervised by the Association. Coordination shall take place in order to initiate joint work with the UN Outer Space affairs office and the International University for Space Sciences, in case of acceptance.
- In the framework of follow up process of such a project, the Secretariat of the Association presented a working paper to the 5th Annual Meeting of the Association Authority, held in Khartoum / Republic of Sudan during the period from 1-2/12/2010. The Association Authority after reviewing the said working paper agreed on the possibility of establishing such an educational center under the name of (the Arab Center for Space Sciences qualification and training) in the Arab Republic of Syria
- **Scientific journal**
. The journal has been written with collaboration from prominent professors of space sciences from the Arab Scientific Community. The journal is issued twice a year under the name of (Remote Sensing Technologies). Two editions have already been issued, published and circulated. The third edition is under process. Publishing of such a Scientific Journal has been met with welcoming response by the Arab scientific community.

Seventhly: Membership in organizations & unions

- **Membership in international Astronomical Federation :**

Within the framework of efforts being made for linking the Arab Association for Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World with other associations , regional and international organizations and unions as agreed by the Association Authority 4th meeting, held in Tunisia 2009 , the Secretariat of the Association has submitted an application for the obtaining a membership at the International Astronomical Federation during 2010 , The Federation welcomed the application of the Association by accepting the same and granting the Association full membership at the International Astronomical Federation for the Association since 27/9/2010 (a copy of documents attached



Eighth :

Providing possible assistance in the field of its specialty

. The Association Secretariat has presented a proposal to assist Arab Countries in the sector of its domain whom have no research Centers in the field of Association. The proposal is to establish a specialized center in the field of Remote Sensing and geographical information systems and to put forward

operational programs and training which the technical teams may need for the establishment and operation of such a center.

Ninth : work on national and international legislation organizing the space activities.

- The Secretariat of the Association has developed a study on the main Space Law Agreements and Treaties. The study was circulated among member states to assist them in the decision making process regarding adherence to such Agreements and Treaties in the light of recommendation included in the study.
- The Secretariat of the Association is currently preparing a draft document highlighting the main issues to be included in any National legislation regulating Space activities to be included at a later stage would be, to draft a standard template of national space law to serve as a guideline for member States when preparing their own National Space legislations

Tenth: Providing Consultation service on areas falls under ins domain

- **Draft the chapter on space science in the Arab Strategy on Scientific research and innovation**

Due to the fact that the Association is considered by member states a house of expertise in the field of space science , therefore it has been by assigned by the General Secretariat of the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils to prepare the chapter on the draft strategy on space science research, It is also agreed by the Association Authority by to development of plans and scientific programs to ensure their implementation .It shall be subject to revision periodically to assure

suitability with objectives of existing , modified and developed as may be required.

Eleventh .Association action plan for 2011

The approved Action Plan for the year 2011 includes the following activities

1 –Continue updating the data base on remote sensing centers and authorities in the Arab World previously prepared and circulated among Association member states.

2 - The performance and organizing the following training courses:

- Training Course on the use of Remote Sensing technology and branching countering desertification to be hosted by the Arab Center for Desert Researches and Desert Community development in Murzoug / south of Libya . The Arab Association for Remote Sensing has undertaken to provide the training course with required expert(s).
- To hold and execute a workshop on “the field application of Geodesic for the data and space /Aerial images”. The Work workshop shall be held in Jordon the framework of cooperation between the Association and Jordanian Royal geographic Center.
- . Training course in the field of treatment of air pollution and its relation with the surrounding environment by using remote Sensing means. this shall be accomplished by the supervision of the National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences in Egypt.
- .Workshop on the Application of Remote Sensing in managing and protection of natural resources , to be carried in cooperation with the Yamane Center for Remote Sensing and geographical information.

- Training course in the field of Advanced Geographical Information in Project Management. The course shall take place in cooperation with the Sup- regional North Africa Center for Remote Sensing.

3. Joint projects

- During the fifth Meeting of the Association Authority 2010 , there was common understanding to initiate a joint project between Libya , Egypt and Sudan regarding the Soil Sensitivity for desertification as a test pilot limited and standard project . This project may be later developed to launch other projects fall under applications relating to desertification.
- Upon a request from the Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences , the Association shall organize a specialized work to be carried out by experts , , those who have good knowledge in producing space maps
 - The Association undertakes to coordinate for a meeting to be held in Sudan during the second quarter of this year. The meeting shall be attended by experts specialized in frequent floods especially in Sudan by using space information and remote sensing
 - Follow up the ongoing project on Land Utilization Planning by using Remote Sensing technologies and Information Systems. This project is carried out by the General Authority for Remote Sensing in Syria and the Libyan Center Remote Sensing and Space Sciences. The project to be accomplished and finalized this year.
 - To issue the 4th and 5th edition of the Association periodical journal, "the World of Remote Sensing in the year 2011.
 - The creation of joint cooperation opportunities between the Arab countries to carry out jointly projects and other scientific studies that

help them to overcome difficulties they currently encounter on national regional level developmental projects the Arab world.

- Follow up the work initiated by the Association to assist in creating new centers for remote sensing in the Arab countries that lack such centers , and to provide the relevant staff training according to the availability and assistance extended by member states .
- To coordinate and exchange visits between the specialist experts in the Arab Centers and institution for remote sensing for the purpose of familiarization with the available capabilities in these establishments entities to achieve integrity Arab among them.
- To follow up the steps taken towards the establishment of an Arabic training educational center for space sciences. The center will be attended after the first university degree, and teaching will be in Arabic. The center will grant an academic Diploma and/or formational licenses for student and trainee who join different branches of space sciences. In terms and conditions detailed in the working paper presented by the Secretariat to the Association Authority for this purpose.
- Follow up the study being initiated on the international and national legislative work in the field of remote sensing, including principles governing space activities and remote sensing to serve as guideline and reference for the Association member states.

Section III

Means of communication and the definition of the Association

I: The means of identification

Association website has been designed and placed a website on the Internet covering areas of its activities The Web site was first prepared Arabic language. An English page was added later on to introduce the Association on both regional and global level

Web site: www.arabeta.Org

II: Means of Communication of the Association:

- E-mail Email: rabeta@arabeta.org
- Phone 00218 21 4909054
- Mail photographer : 00218 21 4909053
- PO Box 9 81 82 Tripoli - Libya

The Secretariat General of the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils presents its compliments to the office for Outer space Peaceful Purposes, and would like to inform the honorable body that Federation is one of the Arab States League Organizations that is concerned with Scientific Research and Technology Development. As such, the Federation is composed of Membership of all the Arab World Countries. The Federation is dependant in its programs on the mechanism of many Specialized Scientific Associations, including the Association of Arab Remote Sensing Centers, which been founded under Federation Council Decision No (6) 25/2002, which provides for the Great Jamahiriya to be its focal point.

In view of the application submitted by the Association to obtain permanent observer status with the UN Committee on the Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes and both its technical and legal subcommittees, we would like to point out that the Association of Arab Remote Sensing Centers enjoys an independent legal and financial personality. The Association is under the auspices and reporting directly to the Federation.

The Association Supreme Body is the (Authority) consists of all member states in the Association. This is expressly provided for in Article III of the Statutes of the Association, which states that "The Body of the Association consists of Directors of Centers or Officials responsible for Remote Sensing in the Arab States members of the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils' Representatives of States, or their representative in attendance" .Each State has one vote regardless of the number of centers present for the meetings of the body. And if a tie occurs then the secretary's side would be nominated.

At the same time we hope that we highlighted the nature of some aspects of the work of the Association, we look forward to seeing the Association has received a Permanent Observer seat in the Committee of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes to enhance its position and role in activating of the Arab Scientific work between the Association and the relevant International Organizations and bodies, also, looking forward to a more fruitful cooperation between your Committee and the Federation.

[SIGNED BY]

Dr. Mbarek Mohamed Ali Majdoub

Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils

Secretariat General



بعد التحية

تهدي الامانة العامة لاتحاد مجالس البحث العلمي العربية اطيب تحياتها الى مكتب شئون الفضاء الخارجي في الاغراض السلمية بالامم المتحدة وتود اعلامكم بان الاتحاد منظمة من منظمات الجامعة العربية تعنى بالبحث العلمي والتطوير التكنولوجي في الوطن العربي ويضم في عضويته جميع الدول العربية .

ويعتمد في تنفيذ برامجه على عدد من الاليات منها الروابط العلمية المتخصصة والتي من ضمنها رابطة مراكز الاستشعار عن بعد في الوطن العربي والتي تأسست بموجب قرار مجلس الاتحاد رقم (6) ج 25/2002 والذي نص على ان تكون الجماهيرية العظمى كنقطة ارتكاز لها .

وبالنظر الى الطلب الذي تقدمت به الرابطة المشار اليها اعلاه للحصول على صفة مراقب دائم بلجنة الامم المتحدة لاستخدام الفضاء الخارجي في الاغراض السلمية ولجنتيها الفرعيتين الغذائية والقانونية نود ان نبين ان رابطة مراكز

الاستشعار عن بعد في الوطن العربي تتمتع بالتحصية الاعتبارية والدمه الماليه المستقله وتتبع للاتحاد مباشرة .
كما ان هيئة الرابطة هي السلطة العليا بالرابطة وتتكون وفق ما ورد في المادة الثالثة من النظام الاساسي للرابطة والتي تنص على " تتكون هيئة الرابطة من مدراء المراكز او المسؤولين عن الاستشعار عن بعد بالدول العربية الاعضاء في اتحاد مجالس البحث العلمي العربية "ممثلو الدول " او من ينوب عنهم في الحضور ويكون لكل دولة صوت واحد مهما كان عدد المراكز الحاضرة لاجتماعات الهيئة واذا تساوت الاصوات يرجح الجانب الذي منه امين الرابطة " .
وفي الوقت الذي نأمل فيه ان نكون قد وضحنا بعض الجوانب الخاصة بطبيعة عمل الرابطة نتطلع الى رؤية الرابطة وقد حظيت بمقعد دائم في لجنة استخدام الفضاء الخارجي في الاغراض السلمية تعزيزاً لمكانتها ودورها في تفعيل العمل العلمي العربي بينها وبين المنظمات والهيئات الدولية ذات العلاقة بنشاطها متطلعين الى المزيد من التعاون المثمر بين لجنتمكم الموقرة والاتحاد .

وتفضلوا بقبول فائق الاحترام والتقدير



10 June 2010

English only

**Committee on the Peaceful Uses
of Outer Space**
Fifty-third session
Vienna, 9-18 June 2010

**Request for observer status with the United Nations
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: application
of the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab
World**

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its thirty-third session, in 1990, the Committee considered guidelines for granting observer status with the Committee to international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The possible criteria suggested by the Outer Space Affairs Division to the Committee at the time were the following:
 - (a) As part of its programme, the organization should be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;
 - (b) The aims and purposes of the organization should be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;
 - (c) The organization should be a recognized international organization and should have an established headquarters, an executive officer, and a constitution, a copy of which is deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In the case of a non-governmental organization, it should be a non-profit organization.
2. Having considered the matter, the Committee at its thirty-third session, agreed, that in the future non-governmental organizations which request observer status with the Committee should have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and should, as part of their programmes, be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Committee.
3. While the Committee's decision did not specifically include the elements referred to in 2(c) above, it has been the practice of the Committee, since its



decision in 1990, to have before it the constitution or statutes of the organization or entity requesting observer status.

4. On 10 May 2010 the Office for Outer Space Affairs received an application for observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space from the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World. The related correspondence and documentation received from the Association is attached to this document for consideration by the Committee.



اتحاد مجالس
البحث العلمي العربية



رابطة مراكز الاستشعار
عن بعد في الوطن العربي

Federation Of Arab Scientific Research Councils

Association Of Arab Remote Sensing Centers

التاريخ : / /
الموافق : 2010/05/03

الرقم الاشاري : ...
2010/25/ب.ع.ب

Ms. Mazlan Othman
Director
Office for Outer Space Affairs
United Nation Office at Vienna
Vienna International Center
Wagramerstrasse 5, 1400 Vienna Austria

OFFICE FOR OUTER SPACE
AFFAIRS (OOSA) / UNOV
Office of the Director

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Dear Ms. Othman

I am honored and pleased, on behalf of the Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World, to present best compliments to Office for Outer Space Affairs and to distinguished members of the Committee On Peaceful Use of Outer Space (COPUOS); and would like to express my desire to have our association join COPUOS as an observer.

The accession of our association will help in coordination between COPUOS and the Arab countries in the field of remote sensing and space science we also hope to have links with many African and Asian countries.

During the short period since its inception, our Association has accomplished many scientific activities in the area of specialization; activities like training courses, seminars and international scientific conferences

Our association has acted as the coordinator and supervisor for important projects using Remote Sensing technology implemented jointly by some Arab countries. At the time, as we are to continue in this and other scientific activities, we hope, when we become an observer member at COPUOS, to participate in the programs of the Scientific Committee of COPUOS at the level of Training and holding seminars and conferences.

Looking forward to see a positive action by COPUOS, I remain

Yours Sincerely

Hadi Gashout
Secretary General

Association of Remote Sensing Centers in the Arab World



المركز الليبي للاستشعار
عن بعد وعلوم الفضاء
LCRSSS

E-mail : rabeta@arabeta.org
www.arabeta.org

++218 21 4909054
++218 21 4909053
طرابلس - ليبيا : 82819

The Association of Centers of Remote Sensing in the Arab world

Establishment

The Association of Centers of Remote Sensing in the Arab world was founded in 2002 under the auspices of Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils. It takes the city of Tripoli in Libya as a base and the Libyan Center for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences as a focal point

Activities

(1) coordination with Arab organizations and research centers whose activities are related to the area of the Association to establish a joint scientific cooperation within the framework of plans of these scientific institutions, and work with these bodies within a joint Arab framework:

- Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining
- Arab Organization for Agricultural Development
- Management of scientific research programs of the Arab Organization for Education and Science.
- The Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Drylands
- Sahara and Sahel Observatory
- Regional Centre for Remote Sensing of the North African Countries.

(2) Establishment of a special web site under the name of the Association
www.arabeta.org

(3) A supervisory committee to oversee the scientific version of a scientific journal on behalf of the Association has been formed.

(4) Suggestion to hold training courses for those interested in technology of remote sensing and geographic information systems in the Arab countries



Goals

The association aims to support scientific research in the field of Remote Sensing in order to achieve scientific progress in the Arab countries in remote sensing technologies and other space-related synonymous through.

- Encouraging joint Arab scientific research projects in various areas of space applications and exchange results.
- Linking the topics of scientific research in the field of specialization of the Association, particularly the of Applied topics, with development plans in the Arab countries.
- Holding Scientific meetings and training courses.
- Issuing scientific journals related to the specialization of the Association.
- Working on that Arabic should be the language of scientific research in Arab countries and seeking standardization of terminology of relevant scientific specialization of the Association.
- Encouraging development of research centers specialized in the subject area of the Association especially in the Arab countries where there are no such centers.
- Working to create specialized web sites that deals with the dissemination of information and exchange of views between specialists in this science as soon as possible.
- Accomplishment of scientific tasks entrusted by the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils in the context of the objectives of the Association

Scientific and technical cooperation

The Association was keen to link the Arab institutions with organizations and bodies working in this framework and has signed cooperation agreements with:

- (1) Arab Federation for Technical Education, and
- (2) The African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing.



النشاطات :

- 1- تم التنسيق مع المنظمات ومراكز البحث العلمي العربية التي لها علاقة باختصاصات الرابطة بهدف إقامة تعاون علمي مشترك في إطار الخطط والبرامج العلمية لهذه المؤسسات والعمل في إطار عمري مشترك مع هذه الجهات :
 - المنظمة العربية للتمية الصناعية والتعدين
 - المنظمة العربية للتمية الزراعية
 - إدارة برامج البحث العلمي بالمنظمة العربية للتربية والعلوم
 - المركز العربي لدراسات المناطق الجافة والأراضي القاحلة
 - مرصد الصحراء والساحل
 - المركز الجهوي للاستثمار عن بعد لدول شمال أفريقيا.
- 2- عمل موقع خاص بالرابطة تحت اسم :

www.arabeta.org

- 3- تم تشكيل لجنة إشراف علمية تشرف على إصدار مجلة علمية محكمة متخصصة باسم الرابطة .
- 4- اقترح عمل دورات تدريبية للمهتمين بتقنية الاستثمار عن بعد ونظم المعلومات الجغرافية بأقطار الوطن العربي.

التعاون العلمي والفني :

- حرصت الرابطة على ربط المؤسسات العربية بالمنظمات والهيئات العاملة في هذا الإطار وبذلك تم توقيع عدد من الاتفاقيات الخاصة بالتعاون مع كل من :
- 1- الاتحاد العربي للتعليم التقني .
 - 2- المنظمة الإفريقية للخرائط والاستثمار عن بعد .

- تطبيق سياسة مشتركة مكرزة على الجوانب التمويلية بين الأعضاء مع الأخذ في الاعتبار الوسائل والإمكانات المتوفرة .
- تمكين الباحثين في الوطن العربي من المشاركة في تطوير العلوم وتوظيفها واستيعاب التقنية وتصميمها بطريقة مسؤولة في الأوساط العلمية والتقنية .
- عقد اللقاءات العلمية المتخصصة دورياً وتنظيم دروس نهجية تهدف إلى استيعاب الأساليب والطرق المتطورة للبحث العلمي والعمل على التوحد من انشغالها في ميادين البحث .
- تشجيع المحرث العلمية العربية المشتركة والعمل على تبادل نتائجها وتحسين الترابط المعلوماتي بين شبكات المكتبات العلمية
- العمل على استخدام مواقع متخصصة على شبكة المعلومات الدولية " الانترنت " للرابطة تعني بتجميع المعلومات وبسائل الآراء بين المهتمين في موضوعاتها بالسرعة الممكنة .
- إنجاز المهام العلمية التي يعهد لها اتحاد مجالس البحث العلمي العربية في إطار أهداف الرابطة .

الهيكلية :

تتكون رابطة مراكز الاستثمار عن بعد من :



الاستثمار :

تطبيقاً لقرار مجلس اتحاد البحث العلمي العربي رقم 25 لسنة 2002 في فقرة 3 الصادر في دورته العادية امانة والعشرون التي انعقدت بمدينة عمان خلال الفترة 19-12/2002 في تم اعتماد الجماهيرية العظمى مقرراً بطة مراكز الاستثمار عن بعد في الوطن العربي ويكون كثر اللبي للاستثمار عن بعد وعلوم القضاء نقطة ارتكاز



تهدف الرابطة إلى دعم البحث العلمي في مجال التخصصين

تحقيق التقدم العلمي في الدول العربية في مجال الاستثمار بعد والعلوم الرائدة والتقنيات القضائية الأخرى ذات قوة وذلك من خلال :

قيامه بحمل وإطار بناسيان التعاون بين مؤسسات البحث العلمي في بلدان الوطن العربي ويسمحان بالتعاون مع مؤسسات العاملة في البلدان الأجنبية .
تبادل أهداف وأوليات البحث العلمي في مجال الاستثمار من بعد والأنظمة الرائدة والعمل على تحقيقها .