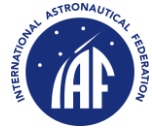




UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs



INFORMATION NOTE

United Nations / International Astronautical Federation Workshop on Space Technology for Socio-Economic Benefits: “Integrated Space Technologies and Applications for a Better Society”

Guadalajara, Mexico, 23-25 September 2016
in conjunction with the 67th International Astronautical Congress

Co-sponsored by European Space Agency
Hosted by Mexican Space Agency

1. Introduction

The United Nations through its Programme on Space Applications implemented by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA) and the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) are jointly organizing a Workshop on Space Technology for Socio-Economic Benefits on the theme “Space Technologies and Integrated Applications for a Better Society” to assist Member States with building capacity in using space science, technologies and their applications in support of sustainable economic, social and environmental development.

The Workshop will be held in Guadalajara, Mexico, from 23 to 25 September 2016 in conjunction with the 67th International Astronautical Congress (IAC)*. A limited number of Workshop participants from developing countries, selected by the United Nations and the IAF, will also be invited to attend the IAC to be held from 26 to 30 September 2016.

The Workshop will be the 25th in a series of Workshops jointly organised by the Office for Outer Space Affairs and by the International Astronautical Federation and has been endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly as part of the 2016 activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. It will be co-sponsored by the European Space Agency (ESA), with contributions from the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) and the International Institute of Space Law (IISL).

2. Workshop Objectives

The Workshop will discuss space science, technologies and applications in support of economic, social and environmental sustainable development with a focus on the use of integrated space technologies and applications for a better society, in particularly also in the developing countries.

* See <http://www.iac2016.org/>

The main objectives of the Workshop will be to:

- Enhance the capabilities of countries in the use of space-related technology, applications, services and information for economic, social and environmental development;
- Examine relevant affordable and accessible space-related technologies and information resources;
- Increase awareness among policy- and decision makers and the research and academic community of space technology applications and consider initiatives to help integrate space solutions into policy- and decision making processes;
- Discuss the role of space science, technology and applications in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Strengthen international and regional cooperation in that area;
- Present relevant capacity building initiatives;
- Consider associated legal and regulatory matters;
- Identify issues for consideration at UNISPACE+50 (see box below).

The presentations made at the Workshop will be published online on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs to increase the awareness of the capabilities and benefits of space technology applications. A report of the Workshop, including observations and recommendations made by the participants, will be published as an official United Nations document.

UNISPACE+50

The year 2018 will mark the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space - UNISPACE+50. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) at its fifty-eighth session in June 2015 endorsed the plan of work for UNISPACE+50. UNISPACE+50 will review the contributions that the three UNISPACE conferences (UNISPACE I, held in 1968, UNISPACE II, held in 1982, and UNISPACE III, held in 1999) have made to global space governance. In line with the 2030 Agenda for Development and sustainable development goals, UNISPACE+50 aims to chart the future role of COPUOS, its subsidiary bodies and the United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs, at a time of an evolving and more complex space agenda when more participants, both governmental and non-governmental, are increasingly involved in ventures to explore space and carry out space activities. The activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications are an integral part of the UNISPACE+50 thematic cycle and are aimed at contributing to outputs under the four pillars space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy. For additional information on UNISPACE+50 see <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/unispaceplus50/index.html>

3. Workshop Programme

The Workshop programme will be structured around a series of topical sessions related to the Workshop theme. Presentations will be solicited through a Call for Papers. In addition, renowned experts in the field will be invited to make presentations.

The following topics will be considered in dedicated sessions:

- Space and Global Challenges
- Space for Economic Development
- Disaster Management and Early Warning
- Health and Education

- Environment and Biodiversity
- Connectivity for Reducing Social Divide

In addition to the topical sessions there will be panel and round-table discussions to share experiences and lessons learned and to discuss opportunities for international and regional cooperation among the participants.

It is also planned that the sessions will be complemented by a **poster session** and technical visits. The co-sponsors strive to organize an attractive programme of side-events for the Workshop participants. The detailed Workshop programme will be made available at the Workshop website at http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/psa/schedule/2016/workshop_mexico_uniaf.html

4. Participants

The Workshop primarily targets relevant space technology and application experts in relevant government organizations, international or national agencies, non-governmental organizations, research or academic institutions or industry. Applicants should have a university degree and well-established professional working experience in a field related to the theme of the Workshop. Due consideration will be given to geographic balance. Applications from interested and qualified female experts are particularly encouraged. Special consideration will be given to the applicants, who

- are relevant policy- and decision- makers;
- have Workshop-related papers accepted by the IAC International Program Committee;
- have experience in leading or conducting project(s) related to the use of space technology and its applications for economic benefits.

The co-sponsors of the Workshop will jointly select participants on a competitive basis. Selected participants will be notified by the end of July 2016. **Invited participants will receive a formal invitation letter with further information with details on board and lodging and other local arrangements.**

5. Support to Qualified Applicants

Within the limited financial resources available to the co-sponsors, **a number of qualified applicants from developing countries, who have expressed the need for financial support will be selected on a competitive basis based on their qualifications, experience and expected contributions to the Workshop and offered financial support to attend the Workshop and the International Astronautical Congress.** All selected applicants are required to make either an oral or poster presentation related to the Workshop theme. The support to applicants may include the provision of a round-trip economy class air ticket between Guadalajara and the applicant's international airport of departure and/or room and board for the duration of the Workshop and the 67th International Astronautical Congress. En-route and other expenses or any changes made to the air ticket provided by the co-sponsors must be the responsibility of the participants.

Due to the limited availability of financial resources, it is usually not possible to provide assistance to all qualified applicants who express the need for financial support. Applicants and their nominating organizations are therefore strongly encouraged to identify sources of sponsorship to allow them to attend the Workshop.

6. Dates and Location

The Workshop will be held from 23 to 25 September 2016 in Guadalajara, Mexico, in conjunction with the 67th International Astronautical Congress.

7. Language of the Workshop

Applicants must have a good working knowledge of English, which will be the official working language of the Workshop.

8. Life and Health Insurance

Life and major health insurance is the responsibility of each selected participant or his/her nominating institution or government. The co-sponsors will not assume any responsibility for life and major health insurance, nor for any expenses related to medical treatment or accidents.

9. Deadline for Submission of Applications

Complete applications and abstracts shall be submitted to the Office for Outer Space Affairs through the online registration page at:

http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/psa/schedule/2016/workshop_mexico_uniaf.html

Applications for participation must be received by the Office for Outer Space Affairs **no later than 10 July 2016** from applicants seeking funding support and no later than 31 August 2016 from self-funded applicants. Only complete applications received by these deadlines will be considered.

11. Further Information and Contact Details

For questions related to the Workshop programme and participation opportunities, please contact:

Mr. Werner Balogh

Office for Outer Space Affairs

E-mail: werner.balogh@unoosa.org

For questions related to the International Astronautical Congress, please contact:

Mr. Christian Feichtinger and Ms. Myriam Morabet

International Astronautical Federation

E-mail: christian.feichtinger@iafastro.org, myriam.morabet@iafastro.org

For questions related to local arrangements of the Workshop, the point of contact for Mexico is:

Mr. Enrique Pacheco

Mexican Space Agency

E-mail: IAC2016@aem.gob.mx

For latest information and updates on the Workshop, it is advised that you frequently visit the http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/psa/schedule/2016/workshop_mexico_uniaf.html