



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

“Iranian Space Agency/UN-SPIDER Regional Workshop: Building Upon Regional Space-based Solutions for Disaster Management and Emergency Response”

Organized by

The Iranian Space Agency (ISA)

With the support of

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 6-8 October 2008

The Iranian Space Agency with the support of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), through its UN-SPIDER Programme (United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response) is organising the above regional workshop to contribute to helping countries within the region learn how to access and use space technology for disaster management and emergency response.

The objectives of this Workshop are:

- (a) To present the current status of space technology for disaster management and emergency response within the Region;
- (b) To showcase regional space-based initiatives relevant to disaster management support (including risk reduction) and emergency response. This includes ongoing and planned initiatives, case studies and best practices, archived data for disaster studies and capacity building opportunities;
- (c) To identify approaches towards the harmonisation of the various existing initiatives that are contributing to helping developing countries in the region access and use space-based technologies for disaster management and risk reduction;
- (d) To reflect on the best concepts for delivering support to both national activities and to national planning and policies, that consider the use of space-based technologies;
- (e) To discuss the impact of global climate change on the increase of natural disasters in the region and how space-based technologies can contribute to mitigating these impacts.

The workshop will bring together up to 50 decision-makers and senior experts. Participants and speakers will be drawn mainly from disaster management institutions

from within the region, including also the nominated UN-SPIDER National Focal Points. Additionally the following organisations will be invited as well:

- National and regional institutions responsible for capacity building in and promoting the use of space-based technologies or in the application of space-based technologies to address natural resource, economic and social issues;
- UN-SPIDER Regional Support Offices;
- UN agencies, national and regional institutions as well as NGOs involved in disaster management mitigation and emergency relief;
- Space agencies;
- Academic and research institutions;
- Private sector providers of space based technological solutions;
- Geospatial Information Management and IT companies.

The working languages of all planned activities will be English. Within the limited financial resources available, a number of selected international participants from within the region will be offered financial support to attend. This financial support will defray the cost of travel (a round trip ticket – most economic fare – between the airport of international departure in their home country and Tehran) and the room and board expenses during the duration of the event.

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