East Asia Summit (EAS) workshop on 'Applications of Space Information Technology in Major Natural Disaster Monitoring and Assessment' and

2nd ASEAN workshop on 'Development of mechanisms for acquisition and utilisation of space-based information during emergency response', 1-5 June 2015, in Hangzhou, China

1. Workshop Background

With the rapid development of the Asian economy and the increasing influence of climate change, natural disasters affect people's livelihood more than ever. In the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in Sendai, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030 identified critical role of space based technologies in disaster risk reduction. The momentum gathered from this important milestone in disaster risk reduction should be used to strengthen cooperation and capacity building in the field of space based technologies internationally. This is especially important for emerging markets in the Asia Pacific region to contribute to sustainable development and poverty eradication across nations.

With the emergence of more and more initiatives, governmental and non-governmental organizations and private companies working in the field of space based earth observation used for disaster reduction, having a forum to share experiences and knowledge as well as building common grounds for facilitating data-sharing, technology application and emergency information service during disasters is a key step to alleviate the impact of disasters especially in developing nations.

To promote cooperation and offer a platform for experts to share experiences in disaster reduction, the workshop focuses on "Applications of Space Information Technology in Major Natural Disaster Monitoring and Assessment". The workshop will also include a follow up of the 2014 ASEAN workshop on 'Development of mechanisms for acquisition and utilization of space-based information during emergency response' in Yogyakarta. The workshop is organized by Ministry of Civil of Affairs of the People's Republic of China, and co-organized by the National Disaster Reduction Centre of China (NDRCC), UN-SPIDER and UNESCAP.

2. Workshop Objective

The East Asian Summit (EAS) cooperation framework aims to promote positive dialogue between participants in disaster management department, promote exchanges and understanding in participating in disaster preparedness capacity building, improve communication on major natural disasters, promote the development of technology systems for disaster monitoring and evaluation, promote Chinese and ASEAN countries cooperation in the field of disaster prevention and reduction.

The ASEAN workshop aims at continuing the efforts made by AHA Centre, LAPAN, UN-SPIDER and ESCAP during the 2014 ASEAN workshop in Yogyakarta to advocate the mechanisms and standard operating procedures for utilization of space-based information during emergency response.

3. Workshop Content

Since the EAS and ASEAN workshop have several topics in common, the events are planned back to back.

The EAS workshop, spanning 2.5 days, will include sessions on advance remote sensing technologies as well as the service of space based information for space based disaster risk reduction.

The advanced remote sensing technologies sessions will focus on technology and applications using multi-source and multi-scale imagery for disaster management. Sessions on service of space based information will focus on acquisition mechanisms and networks, generating platforms for disaster management as well as public-private partnerships and national capacity building experiences.

The ASEAN workshop led by UN-SPIDER and UNESCAP will continue after the EAS workshop with a focus on the development of mechanisms for acquisition and utilization of space-based information during emergency response.

The tentative agenda is attached and would be adjusted with communication in due course by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China.