Twenty-seventh Session, Vienna, Austria 17 –19 January, 2007

Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities



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Inter-Agency Collaborative Activities and Projects

2006 - 2007



Training and Education Outreach

- OOSA and UNESCO collaborate in activities that increase international cooperation on space education and outreach to youth:
 - UN/IAF Workshop on The Use of Space Technology for Water Resources Management, Valencia, Spain, 29-30 September 2006
 - UNESCO/CSIS/IAF Workshop on Human Space Exploration Education for All", during the 57th International Astronautical Congress, Valencia, Spain, 4 October 2006
 - UN/IAF Workshop on The Use of Space Technology for Sustainable Development Towards Food Security, Hyderabad, India, 21-22 September 2007
 - World Space Week, 4-10 October annually
 - The 2006 theme was "Space for Saving Lives"
 - The 2007 theme is "50 Years in Space".



Satellite Communications

- WMO and ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) provided input to the:
 - United Nations/South Africa Training Course on Satellite-Aided Search and Rescue, Cape Town, South Africa, 20-24 November 2006
- OOSA collaborated with ITU in developing the:
 - OOSA/Colombia project on Geo Occupancy Analyzer Tool (GOAT)
 - Seek broader dissemination of the tool
- OOSA collaborates with WHO and ITU on
 - Tele-health, Tele-education
 - Landscape epidemiology



Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS)

- The newly established International Committee on GNSS (ICG) will assist both the members of the Committee and the international user community by:
 - Serving as the focal point for international information exchange related to GNSS activities
 - Respecting the roles and functions of GNSS service providers and intergovernmental bodies
- ICG seeks collaboration with additional UN agencies such as ICAO and IMO.



Earth Observation

- OOSA provides support to GEO activities in the implementation of GEOSS, together with several other UN agencies: UNESCO, FAO, UNEP, UN/ISDR, WHO and WMO.
 - Co-lead with WMO the GEOSS Task DI-06-12, "Initiate a Knowledge-Transfer Programme to Developing Countries to Ensure Basic Capacity to Utilize Earth Observations for Disaster Management".
- OOSA delivered a key note address to the 17th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (UNRCC-AP) held in Bangkok, Thailand, 18-22 September 2006. It was organised by UN/DESA.



Disaster Management

- OOSA is a member of the Advisory Group of the International Early Warning Program implemented by ISDR/PPEW, together with UNESCO/IOC, UNU-IEHS, UNEP and WMO.
 - Contributed to the discussion of the proposed Platform strategy and the draft work plan for 2007-2010
- OOSA has been participating in the work of UNGIWG since the $3^{\rm rd}$ Meeting in 2002
 - Participating in the Remote Sensing Task Group
 - Cooperating body of the International Charter "Space and Major Disasters".
- "The United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster management and Emergency Response (UNSPIDER)" was approved by the General Assembly at its 61st Session on 14 December 2006
 - Several UN agencies contributed in 2006 in the coordination meetings for the definition of the programme.



Tele-health

- OOSA cooperates with WHO in activities that are related to the development of tele-health.
 - UNOOSA/WHO Panels on Tele-health Implementation Approaches for Africa, 27-28 November 2006. During the 11th ISfTeH International Conference in Cape Town, South Africa
 - United Nations/Mexico Training Course on Satellite Technology for Tele-health, Mexico City, 14-19 May 2007
 - Follow up to the Argentina 2005 Tele-health Workshop, supported by PAHO.
- WHO co-chairs the UN COPUOS Action Team 6 Improve Public Health Services.
- Seeking cooperation with ITU.



Data Sharing

- UNEP and the DPKO/Cartographic Section provided the US-donated Global Orthorectified Landsat Datasets for three epochs to OOSA for further distribution and usage in project applications.
 - Since 2005, have distributed the data to 15 institutes in Africa including:
 - UNECA affiliated Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS) for education and training.
 - UN OOSA affiliated regional centers CRASTE-LF and ARCSSTEE.
 - The UN University Network for Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa (UNEDRA)
 - Data distribution is a continuing effort



UNIDO's Global Mercury Project

- OOSA provided advisory support to the UNIDO in its Global Mercury Project:
 - Removal of barriers to introduction of cleaner artisanal gold mining and extraction technologies
 - Providing satellite imaging to aid the study of reclamation strategies and mercury mobility through the environment.