

SEA (Space Education and Awareness) WG activities

Proposed Outline

1. Background and Objectives of SEA WG activities

Space has been an important part of human civilization. Throughout the human history, the quest for knowledge of the universe has led humankind to learn more about where they have come from, where they stand and to expand their imagination about where they are going.

Activities in space have increasingly become an essential, integral part of our human life. Benefits derived from space applications have transformed the way we look at our environment and our planet, the way we communicate and interact with each other and the way we move from one place to another, dramatically increasing the safety, security, accuracy, predictability and convenience in our daily lives.

In spite of the growing evidences of the usefulness of space science and technology for society, the appreciation by the general public of their importance is still limited. Efforts should continue to increase public awareness of the usefulness and importance of space science and technology. Applications of space science enhance the quality of our lives and support sustainable development of our society.

For young people, space activities provide a source of interest, imagination and inspiration. Attractive space educational materials can spark intellectual flames in the minds of young people not only in science and technology but also in many other aspects of human activities. Effectively used, examples of the past achievements and efforts to overcome challenges in the use and exploration of outer space can motivate young people to pursue excellence in whatever they do and help them understand how important, and how rewarding, it is to work together with many others to serve the society.

It is with such conviction that the SEA WG was established at the 8th session of APRSAF, in July 2001, with the aim of: i) effectively using space materials to enhance education for young people; ii) providing education and training opportunities for young people in space science and technology; iii) contributing to enhancing mutual understanding among countries in the region through exchange opportunities for young people; and iv) increasing public awareness of the societal benefits and importance of space activities.

2. The Results of SEA WG Activities at APRSAF-18
See the attached APRSAF-18 adopted recommendations.
3. The Draft of the Agenda¹
 - (1) Opening of the session
 - (2) Adoption of the agenda
 - (3) General exchange of views on space education and raising awareness
 - (4) Joint educational activities for primary, secondary and tertiary school students and teachers
 - a. Water rocket activities
 - b. Poster contest
 - c. Space education forum and seminar
 - d. Other activities
 - (5) Ways and means to exchange space education materials effectively using IT technologies
 - (6) Cooperation with international science community network
 - (7) Ways and means to utilize achievements of other WGs for education
 - (8) Other matters
 - i) Review of the outcomes of the work of the Working Group and possibilities of revising its terms of reference and developing a plan of action
 - ii) Other matters

¹ For more details of the work to be conducted during APRSAF-19, please refer to “Provisional Agenda” of the Working Group (document APRSAF19/SEA-WG/2012) to be issued.