

Twentieth Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-20)

Kibo-ABC (Asian Beneficial Collaboration through Kibo utilization)

Proposed Outline

1. The scope/objectives of Kibo-ABC activities

Kibo-ABC aims to promote utilizations of the Japanese Experiment Module, Kibo, of the International Space Station in the Asia-Pacific region. Through cooperative activities of Asian countries to realize their Kibo utilization, this initiative sights the following outcomes:

- Expedited creation of bilateral project between Japan and other countries on Kibo utilization.
- Shared recognition of the significance and values of Kibo among countries in the region.

The activities of Kibo-ABC are generally grouped into three categories as follows:

- Outreach activities on "Kibo" utilization toward Asian people including researchers
- Capacity building of experiments to be performed by Asian space agencies for "Kibo" utilization
- Active discussion and consideration of the creation of concrete cooperation concerning "Kibo" utilization

Established in 2012, Kibo-ABC embraces Australia, Indonesia, Japan Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Vietnam as members, and awates many more to join. It is also desired that the Kibo-ABC will become an autonomous initiative independent of a specific space agency.

2. The results of Kibo-ABC activities after APRSAF-19

Kibo-ABC succeeded the Space Seed for Asian Future program from SEU WG and the SSAF2013 is the first of its activity. ISS crew conducted onboard

Appendix C

operation in the beginning of September. Students nurtured their own seedlings in parallel on the ground and compare their results to those from Kibo.

3. The Draft of the Agenda

(1) Initiative activity, strategy and plan

- a. How to invite more member countries
- b. Building up autonomy of the initiative
- c. Possibility of new activities

(2) Interim reports on SSAF2013 local activity status

(3) Practice of microgravity demonstration by a simple free fall method