

APRSAF-24: Session for “Space Cooperation in Asia Pacific”

We believe that international cooperation is one of corner stone for the success of long term sustenance of space endeavors of mankind. While cooperation between major space faring nations is vital, the cooperation at a different platform is emerging as a new trend in ensuring that benefits of space applications are available to larger masses. This platform is regional cooperation in space. Across the globe, some countries have taken up a lead role in ensuring that there are fruitful interactions and initiatives to ensure a strong regional cooperation in space.

In this direction, Asia Pacific is an important region which stands to contribute and gain from strong cooperative efforts in space applications. The following major factors strongly support more initiative in this region:

- Large geographic region in terms of land and ocean
- Diverse ethnic groups requiring multiple applications
- Bio diversity and wide range of climatic conditions
- Large population
- Significant emergence of space players in the region
- Very good space technology expertise available in the region

Considering the above, it is appropriate and prudent to organize a discussion on the topic of ‘Space Cooperation in Asia Pacific’. This would ensure that views are expressed and ideas are exchanged on the current trends and way forward in this area. Accordingly, a panel comprising of representatives from the stake holders, the space agencies and multi-nation organizations has been organized for this discussion.