

April 28, 1998

AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE FOR SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (AFFILIATED TO UNITED NATIONS)

The Contracting Parties

(I) In the presence of Expert on Space Applications, Office of the Space Affairs of the United Nations

(II) RECALLING that the General Assembly of the United Nations, in its resolution 37/90 of 10 December, 1982 endorsed the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE 82), held in 1982 at Vienna that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications focus its attention, inter-alia, on the development of Indigenous capability at the local level;

(III) RECALLING further that the General Assembly of the United Nations, in its resolution 45/72 of 11 December 1990, endorsed the recommendations of the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that "the United Nations should lead, with the active support of its specialised agencies and other International organisations, an international effort to establish regional centres for space science and technology education in existing national/regional educational institutions in developing countries";

(IV) NOTING United Nations General Assembly resolution 48/45 of December, 1991, 47/67 of 14 December, 1992 and 48/39 of 1 December, 1993;

(V) REAFFIRMING that the Action Plan of the Ministerial Conference Space Applications for Development in Asia and the Pacific held Beijing, September 23-24, 1994 "encouraged the development United Nations-ESCAP Regional Space Applications Programme Development of links with the proposed United Nations Centre Space Science and Technology Education in the region";

(VI) FURTHER NOTING the final report of the Evaluation Mission on the establishment of this Centre for Asia and the Pacific and the subsequent statement on the selection of India as host country for this Centre, both Issued In November 1994 by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs;

(VIII) DESIRING by means of this Agreement to establish the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific;

HAVE AGREED as follows;

**ARTICLE I
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE**

1. The Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific (herein after referred to as the "Centre") shall be established in India and In due course and upon approval of the Governing Board (defined in Article - IV), the Centre would grow into a network of nodes in order to fully utilise the resources and

potentials of the region. The activities and programmes of the Centre aim to primarily benefit all of the States of the Asia and the Pacific region.

2. Definition of the Asia Pacific region is as adopted by United Nations-Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and revised In consequence of the various United Nations General Assembly resolutions.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES OF THE CENTRE

1. The Centre shall pursue for peaceful purposes in depth education programmes with initial emphasis on remote sensing, satellite communications, satellite meteorology and atmospheric sciences. In particular, the objectives of the Centre shall be to:

(a) develop the skills and knowledge of university educators, environmental research scientists and project personnel in the design, development and application of remote sensing and related technologies for subsequent application in national and regional development and environment management programmes including bio-diversity protection;

(b) assist educators to develop environmental and atmospheric sciences curricula that they can use to advance the knowledge of their students in their respective Institutions/countries;

(c) develop skills for satellite communications including those associated with rural development, long distance education, delivery of health services, disaster mitigation, air and maritime navigation, and network/linkage of the region's professionals and scientists, Government establishments and industries in order to facilitate the exchange of new Ideas, data and experiences;

(d) assist research and application scientists in preparing space derived Information for presentation to the policy and decision makers in charge of national and regional development programmes;

(e) enhance regional and international cooperation In space science, technology and applications programmes as envisaged in the Strategy and Action Plan adopted under the Beijing declaration on Space Technology Applications for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific;

(f) assist in disseminating to the general public the value of space science and technology in improving their everyday quality of life;

(g) support other relevant activities that could enhance the scientific development of the region,

ARTICLE III STRUCTURE OF THE CENTRE

1. The structure of the Centre shall be as follows:

(a) The Governing Board;

- (b) The Advisory Committee;
- (c) Director and other personnel of the Centre;
- (d) The Campus and affiliate nodes of the Centre

ARTICLE IV THE GOVERNING BOARD

1. The Governing Board shall be the principal policy-making organ of the Centre. The Governing Board shall be composed of one representative from each Contracting Party. Each member of the Governing Board shall have one vote in the proceedings of the Governing Board. Any other country, International organisation or funding agency which has concluded a Cooperation Agreement with the Centre as provided in Article VIII of the present Agreement shall be invited to the meetings of the Governing Board in the capacity of Observers.

2. The Governing Board shall meet at least once every year in India or in any other country of the region to be determined by the Governing Board. The quorum for the Governing Board meeting will be a minimum of half the members of the Governing Board.

3. The Governing Board shall determine the policy of the Centre, approve its long-range plans and annual programmes and the budgets submitted. It shall also approve the financial policy and procedures and shall establish its own rules of procedures and regulations, and evaluate the functioning of the Centre.

4. The Governing Board shall determine the functions, and composition of the Advisory Committee.

5. The Governing Board will appoint the Director and Deputy Director of the Centre for which each member of the Governing Board may nominate its candidates. The responsibilities and functions of the Director and Deputy Director of the Centre will be defined by the Governing Board.

6. The Chairperson of the Governing Board shall be elected by the Governing Board for a two year term. This term may be renewed once for another period of two years. The Chairperson shall be elected by consensus. The first Chairperson of the Governing Board shall be from the host country.

7. The Director and the Deputy Director shall be present at all meetings of the Governing Board. The Director and the Deputy Director may at any time, with the approval of the Chairperson of the Governing Board, make oral or written statements at such meetings.

8. The Governing Board may invite other states, organisations, and experts to participate in activities of the Centre on such terms as the Governing Board may establish.

9. The Director of the Centre shall serve as the Secretary of the Governing Board.

ARTICLE V THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. The Advisory Committee shall be composed of prominent individuals in government, private Industry and the academic and scientific communities.