



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
2 November 2022

Original: English

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

Jakarta and online, 26 October 2022

Jakarta Ministerial Declaration on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

1. We, representatives of the members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific participating in the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, met in Jakarta and online on 26 October 2022.
2. We recall the First, Second and Third Ministerial Conferences on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Beijing in 1994, in New Delhi in 1999 and in Bangkok in 2018.
3. We reaffirm our commitment to implementing General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and targets contained therein, based on each country’s individual situation and development context and taking into account national priorities.
4. We note the importance of General Assembly resolution 73/6 of 26 October 2018, entitled “Fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: space as a driver of sustainable development”, and of Assembly resolution 76/3 of 25 October 2021, entitled “The ‘Space2030’ Agenda: space as a driver of sustainable development”, in which it was recognized that space science and technology and their applications are important for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. We emphasize the significant progress made in the development of space science and technology and their applications and, specifically, the adoption of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030),¹ and recognize the contribution of space technologies and their applications to sustainable development.

¹ ESCAP/75/10/Add.2.

6. We note the strong potential that the integrated use of emerging technologies brought by the fourth industrial revolution offers for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

7. We are cognizant of the fact that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has greatly affected our livelihoods and disrupted societies and economies, particularly the most vulnerable, and, in this regard, respond to the call made by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/76 of 9 December 2021, entitled “International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space”, for the international community to enhance the role of space-based solutions, in particular tele-epidemiology, in monitoring, preparedness and response activities.

8. We recognize that information- and knowledge-sharing, as appropriate, are important for creating an enabling environment for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account national policies and priorities.

9. We reaffirm the value of collaborative partnerships and of the engagement of all major groups and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognize the importance of leveraging the potential of space to inspire youth, increase the involvement of young people in the space sector and support national and international initiatives that inspire the interest of young people in space activities to accelerate the achievement of the Goals.

10. We reaffirm also our commitment to implementing Commission resolution 75/6 of 31 May 2019, entitled “Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030)”.

11. We recall Commission resolutions 76/2 of 21 May 2020, 77/1 of 29 April 2021 and 78/1 of 27 May 2022, in all of which reference is made to the importance of strengthening regional cooperation to address common challenges and make progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

12. We express appreciation for the progress made in implementing phase I (2018–2022) of the Plan of Action.

13. We express appreciation also for the valuable contributions of members and associate members to increasing the use of space science and technology and their applications and geospatial information to demonstrate the benefits of such use for regional cooperation in those areas, including through the implementation of phase I of the Plan of Action.

14. We recognize the importance of capacity-building, education and training provided by the regional centres for space science and technology education affiliated to the United Nations, for developing countries, and the need to enhance them to improve their overall capacity.

15. We recognize also the need to accelerate the implementation of phase II (2022–2026) of the Plan of Action.

16. We call upon members and associate members to address outstanding and emerging development challenges of persisting poverty, food security, inequalities, global health threats, vulnerability to shocks, natural disasters and climate change and environmental degradation,² including through relevant platforms, inter alia, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, and to enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships aimed at mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular in developing countries.

17. We encourage members and associate members to further enhance substantive cooperation on space science and technology and their applications to strengthen the implementation of phase II of the Plan of Action by paying attention, as appropriate, to specific elements centred on and not limited to leveraging innovative digital applications, managing data and information more effectively, engaging end users and enhancing partnerships with national, regional and global stakeholders.

18. We also encourage members and associate members to accelerate implementation of phase II of the Plan of Action by better integrating digital technologies and innovations with traditional space applications and furthering geospatial information applications.

19. We welcome the initiatives of and the actions taken by members and associate members to support the implementation of phase II of the Plan of Action, emphasizing the need to strengthen coordination among existing and emerging global and regional mechanisms, as appropriate, in a comprehensive, cross-cutting manner.

20. We encourage members and associate members to work together closely and develop appropriate joint programmes and projects that are aligned with the priority themes, goals, targets and actions of the Plan of Action, and, in this context, taking note of the initiative proposed by the Government of Indonesia as a contribution to the implementation of phase II of the Plan of Action, namely disaster risk management tools, invite members and associate members to consider, as appropriate, the above-mentioned initiative.

21. We encourage members and associate members, United Nations agencies, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider participating in regional initiatives and providing technical and financial support.

22. We welcome the involvement of young people in the space sector, and support national and international initiatives that inspire the interest of young people in space activities to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

² Commission resolution 78/1.

23. We request the Executive Secretary:

(a) To promote, as appropriate, regional and subregional cooperation and to foster the sharing of good practices and lessons learned to accelerate the implementation of phase II of the Plan of Action;

(b) To facilitate consideration, by members and associate members of the Commission, of the initiative of the Government of Indonesia referred to in paragraph 20 above, in accordance with the rules of procedure and terms of reference of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies and the established practice of the Commission;

(c) To continue to provide technical assistance, policy analysis and capacity-development to and promote knowledge-sharing among members and associate members on space applications and geospatial data and information;

(d) To submit the present declaration to the Commission at its seventy-ninth session for its consideration and endorsement.

24. We express our profound gratitude to the Government of Indonesia for having made it possible for the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific to be held in Jakarta, and request the Government of Indonesia to thank the city and people of Jakarta for the hospitality and warmth extended to all participants.
