



Office for Outer Space Affairs
United Nations Office at Vienna



**United Nations/Austria/European Space Agency
Symposium**

Objectives and Organization of the Symposium

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Graz, Austria

11-14 September 2007



Presentation Overview

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A large, stylized, light blue version of the United Nations logo is centered on the page. The word "Objectives" is written in a bold, dark blue font across the center of the logo.



Introduction

- The purpose of this presentation is to
 - Reiterate the Symposium background and its objectives
 - Provide information on its organization and structure
 - Explain some of the practical arrangements
- United Nations/Austria/ESA Symposia have been held in Graz, Austria, since 1993
- They are part of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, implemented by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA) since 1972
- Co-sponsored by the Government of Austria and the European Space Agency (ESA)



Symposium Background

- This is the 14th United Nations/Austria/European Space Agency Symposium
- Originally designed as a gathering to acquaint decision makers with the benefits of using space technology and applications
- Following the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002, the focus of the Symposia was directed towards addressing aspects of sustainable development
- Specifically, this includes space applications to support the Plan of Implementation of the WSSD



Previous Symposia in the Series

- 2003: “Space Applications for Sustainable Development: Supporting the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development”
- 2004: “Water for the World: Space Solutions for Water Management”
- 2005: “Space Systems – Protecting and Restoring Water Resources”
- 2006: “Space Tools for Monitoring Air Pollution and Energy Use for Sustainable Development”
- 2007: “Space Tools and Solutions for Monitoring the Atmosphere in Support of Sustainable Development”



Symposium Framework

- Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), 1999
 - Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration for Space and Human Development
- World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002
 - Building on United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Agenda 21), 1992
 - United Nations Millennium Declaration (United Nations Millennium Development Goals), 2000
 - WSSD Plan of Implementation
- Implementation Mechanisms
 - Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), 1959
 - Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), 1992



Symposium Framework

- CSD considers the implementation of recommendations on sustainable development made at major global conferences, including the WSSD
- Pursues a multi-year programme of work covering the period 2004 to 2017 divided into two-year cycles addressing:
 - Thematic clusters (specific to each two-year cycle)
 - Cross-cutting issues (fixed throughout 2004 to 2017)
- Each cycle consists of a
 - Review year to identify obstacles and constraints to implementation
 - Policy year to decide on measures to accelerate implementation and to mobilize action to overcome the obstacles and constraints identified in the review year



Symposium Framework

- COPUOS and CSD are reporting to each other
- Bi-annual report of COPUOS to CSD during its review year on the benefits of the use of space technology and its applications related to the specific thematic cluster under consideration
- Thematic cluster for 2006/2007 includes the issues of energy for sustainable development, air pollution/ atmosphere and climate change
- Therefore these issues were also chosen as the themes of the 2006/2007 UN/Austria/ESA Symposia
- Symposium reports are brought to the attention of United Nations Member States through COPUOS and CSD



The 2006/2007 Symposia

- The 2006 Symposium focussed on
 - Monitoring Air Pollution
 - Energy Use for Sustainable Development
- The 2007 Symposium will consider
 - Climate Change
 - Changing Weather Patterns
 - Air Pollution
 - Ozone Depletion
 - Ultraviolet Radiation



Symposium Objectives

1. Inform about the WSSD/CSD framework and the context and role of atmosphere monitoring for sustainable development;
2. Promote and inform about ongoing relevant national, regional and global initiatives
3. Examine the available space technology based tools, solutions and informational resources



Symposium Objectives

4. Examine possibilities and strategies for including space technology and applications in decision-making processes
5. Identify the type and level of available or required training for using the relevant tools and solutions
6. Examine existing functional partnerships and cooperation opportunities as well as the possible need for new frameworks for cooperation



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Symposium Structure

Tuesday, 11 September	
AM	Opening/Welcome
	Keynote Addresses
	Objectives of the 2007 Symposium and Review of the 2006 Symposium
PM	Overview of Earth Observations, Satellite Applications, and Atmospheric Monitoring
	Global and Regional Initiatives
Wednesday, 12 September	
AM	Space Tools for Atmosphere Monitoring
PM	Air Quality – Ozone and Particulate Matter



Symposium Structure

Thursday, 13 September	
AM	Climate Change and Weather
PM	Interactive Training on Satellite Tools and Applications for Air Quality
Friday, 14 September	
AM	Follow-Up Activities and Working Group Meetings
PM	Conclusions and Recommendations of the Symposium
	Closing Ceremony



Practical Arrangements

- Each Sessions is chaired by a chairperson, supported by a rapporteur, whose reports will be used in drafting the Symposium report
- Invited Presentations
 - 20 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for questions & answers
- Participant's Presentations
 - Describing activities, success stories, and/or particular issues and challenges participants are facing in their work
 - Approx. 10 minutes, including questions & answers
 - Comprehensive overview of world-wide activities
 - Could contribute to identify possible follow-up activities or synergies among presented activities and opportunities for cooperation
- Please assure your presentations are uploaded in time!



Practical Arrangements

- Special tables for discussion will be set-aside during lunch time on Wednesday and Thursday
- Training Session – Computers
- Working Group Meetings on Friday
- There will be a number of receptions as part of the official programme
 - *Reception by the Governor of the State of Styria*
 - *Reception by the Mayor of Graz*
 - *Reception at the Brewery Puntigam*
- A biography booklet has been prepared with the biographies of all participants and is included in your registration package
- We will ask for your feedback



Introduction of Staff and Trainers

- Local Organizer Staff
 - Birgit Reisenberger (Ms.)
- Trainers for Interactive Training Session
 - Sundar Christopher
 - Jill Engel-Cox (Ms.)
 - Lawrence Friedl
 - Pawan Gupta
- United Nations Staff
 - Adelia Aquino (Ms.)
 - Werner Balogh
 - Levent Canturk
 - Hans Haubold
 - Ayoni Oyeneyin (Ms.)



Closing Remarks

- Make good use of the many opportunities to get to know the other participants and their work
- You may wish to exchange contact info, which we are not providing in the biography booklet
- Some speakers may only be at the Symposium for the day of their presentation
- Talk to us, if you want specific issues to be addressed at the Symposium
- Pending availability of time we may be able to schedule ad-hoc presentations during the Symposium
- Take notes on possible recommendations, ways and means to improve the Symposium and on possible follow-up activities – we will discuss it on Friday!



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Thank you for your Attention!



Useful Resources

- The CSD-15 session concluded on 11 May 2007. As the Policy session of the second implementation cycle, CSD-15 continued its focus in the following areas: Energy for Sustainable Development; Industrial Development; Air pollution/ Atmosphere; and Climate Change. <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd15/csd15.htm>
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change <http://www.ipcc.ch/>
- Johannesburg Summit 2002 - the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August - 4 September 2002
http://www.un.org/jsummit/html/basic_info/basicinfo.html
- Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (including the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development), A/CONF.199/20
http://www.un.org/jsummit/html/documents/summit_docs.html
- List of space-related initiatives and programmes carried out by member States of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and within the United Nations system that respond to specific recommendations contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
<http://www.uncosa.unvienna.org/uncosa/en/wssd/index.html>



Useful Resources

- United Nations Millennium Development Goals <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>
- Commission on Sustainable Development
<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/policy.htm>
- Report of UNISPACE III <http://www.oosa.unvienna.org/unisp-3/index.html>
- UN/Austria/ESA Symposium on Space Applications to Support the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development on "Space Tools for Monitoring Air Pollution and Energy Use for Sustainable Development", Graz, Austria, 12 - 15 September 2006 www.unoosa.org/oosa/SAP/act2006/graz/index.html
- Fundamentals of Remote Sensing: A primer for those seeking to learn about or refresh their knowledge on remote sensing basics made available by the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing. Participants to the Symposium should have a good knowledge of the basics and concepts explained in this primer
http://ccrs.nrcan.gc.ca/resource/tutor/fundam/index_e.php
- The dedicated Symposium Website can be found at <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/SAP/act2007/graz/index.html>. On this site we will also publish the Symposium's final report and other documents, e.g. news on possible follow-up activities.