



CANCILLERÍA



Embajada de Colombia en Austria

Memorando

EATVN No. 225-129

Viena, 13 de abril de 2015

PARA: ANDREA GUERRERO GARCIA
Directora de Asuntos Económicos, Sociales y Medioambientales

DE: JAIME ALBERTO CABAL SANCLEMENTE
Embajador

ASUNTO: Simposio de la OOSA y el Gobierno de Austria

Estimada Directora:

De manera atenta y para su información y fines pertinentes me permito enviarle la invitación suscrita por la Secretaría de la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas para Asuntos del Espacio Ultraterrestre del 31 de marzo de 2015 y dirigida a la Misión Permanente de Colombia ante las Naciones Unidas en Viena, para participar en el Simposio: "Aplicaciones de la tecnología espacial integradas para el cambio climático" que será organizado por la OOSA y el Gobierno de Austria y se llevará a cabo del 7-10 de septiembre de 2015 en Graz, Austria

De la Señora Directora muy atentamente,

JAIME ALBERTO CABAL SANCLEMENTE

Embajador

Anexos: Lo anunciado
Angela de la Torre



UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs

31 March 2015

**United Nations/ Austria Symposium on “Integrated Space Technology Applications
for Climate Change”**
7-10 September 2015, Graz, Austria

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the United Nations/Austria Symposium on “Integrated Space Technology Applications for Climate Change” in Graz, Austria, is one of the activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications in 2015 endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly.

The Symposium is jointly organized by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Government of Austria and will focus on the use of space technology applications for climate change. It will bring together experts from the space and the development community as well as decision makers, researchers and practitioners to discuss the most recent advances and methods to use space-based applications to support the identification and implementation of measures to contribute to climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation.

On behalf of the United Nations, it is my pleasure to extend this invitation, through you, to the Government to nominate qualified experts to participate in this Symposium. The information note, the online application form, and further information are available here:

<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/SAP/act2015/grazsymposium2015.html>

Within the limited financial resources available, qualified applicants who express the need for assistance will be offered financial support to attend the Symposium.

Kindly note that the fully completed applications must be received by the Office for Outer Space Affairs at the latest by Friday, 29 May 2015.

Thank you very much for your assistance and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Takao Doi

United Nations Expert on Space Applications
Office for Outer Space Affairs

**All Permanent Missions
to the United Nations (Vienna)**

**INFORMATION NOTE****United Nations/ Austria Symposium on
“Integrated Space Technology Applications for Climate Change”**

Organized by
The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs

Co-Organised by
The Government of Austria

7-10 September 2015, Graz, Austria

1. Introduction

Climate change has been recognized as the challenge that needs to be addressed globally, through an integrated approach involving mitigation efforts as a way to keep green-house gas emissions under control, and through adaptation efforts as a way to minimize the impacts and effects of climate change in communities around the world. Integrated space technology applications are facilitating the geospatial visualization of the manifestations of climate change. Through the combination of archived and up-to-date imagery, space agencies are demonstrating how the Arctic polar cap is diminishing in recent decades, how sea-level rise is affecting communities in a differential way, and how glaciers are receding worldwide. Remote sensing applications are now used as a way to track deforestation and re-forestation trends worldwide, and offer an objective basis to track such processes. The Conference of Parties held in Lima in 2014 highlighted the need to also focus on adaptation.

The upcoming Conference of Parties on climate change to take place in Paris at the end of 2015 will be the venue where the new climate change agreement will be launched. The draft version of this agreement includes a proposal to request the support of Annex II Parties to the Convention and those Parties in a position to do so, to “shall support the LDCs in the implementation of national adaptation plans and the development of additional activities under the LDC work programme, including the development of institutional capacity by establishing regional institutions to respond to adaptation needs and strengthen climate-related research and systematic observation for climate data collection, archiving, analysis and modelling.”¹

As a way to contribute to the promotion of integrated space technology applications in the context of climate change, the United Nations and the Government of Austria are organizing the *United Nations/ Austria Symposium on “Integrated Space Technology Applications for Climate Change”* under the framework of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. The Symposium will take place in

¹ Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action. Negotiating text; Advance, unedited version as of 12 February 2015. Available at:
http://unfccc.int/files/bodies/awq/application/pdf/negotiating_text_12022015@2200.pdf

- Disaster-risk management, response and recovery – hydrometeorological hazards exacerbated by climate change.
- Political and legal aspects regarding the use of Integrated Space Technology Applications in the upcoming framework for climate change, to be launched in the COP in Paris at the end of 2015:

The outcome of the symposium will be a series of observations, recommendations and proposals for future activities regarding the use of space technology applications for disaster risk management in mountain areas.

6. Language of the Symposium

Applicants must have a good knowledge of ENGLISH language, which will be the ONLY working language of the Symposium.

7. Participation

The International Symposium is expected to bring together participants from national, regional, and international organizations from:

- Government agencies including ministries of development and planning, environment, agriculture, health, natural resources, and space agencies;
- National, regional and international organizations involved in space applications, environment and mountain development;
- Academic and research institutions;
- Non-governmental organizations;
- Private Sector and industries.

Applicants must have a well-established professional working experience in a field related to the theme of the Symposium. **Applications from qualified female participants are particularly encouraged.**

Selected participants who are funded by the co-sponsors of the Symposium will be required to prepare a presentation of approximately 10 to 20 minutes on topics relevant to the Symposium objectives. Presentations on actual on-going projects will be of particular interest to participants of the Symposium. In addition, they are expected to contribute to the moderation of discussion sessions and reporting activities.

The sponsors will jointly select international participants from candidates nominated by their governments and/or institutions. Selection of these participants will be made on the basis of: (i) hierarchical level and experience relevant to the Symposium objectives; (ii) degree of current involvement in the use of integrated space applications and/or involvement in development processes in mountainous areas; (iii) content and relevance of the abstract submitted as part of the application; and (iv) educational background. Compliance with the instructions issued in the application form is mandatory. A limited amount of funding will be available to sponsor the travel and/or accommodation of a limited number of participants.

8. Deadline for Submission of Applications

Completed applications including the signature page with signatures and seals or stamps must be received