



First Announcement of

## **APSCO/ESA/CISL SPACE LAW WORKSHOP 2021**

*Theme: Regional Cooperation Schemes on Space Law and Policy*

6-8 September, 2021

Sanya, China



## **1<sup>st</sup> Announcement**

# **APSCO/ESA/CISL SPACE LAW WORKSHOP 2021**

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### **General Introduction**

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space helps to intensify and diversify national space programs and to bring the benefits of space technology applications to a wide circle of stakeholders, both governmental and non-governmental. Regulatory and policy frameworks at the national, regional and global levels provide States, in particular developing States, the necessary basis for their space activities. Considering the fast development of space sector and the challenging nature of regulatory perspectives of the space activities, the role of international and regional organizations in space have certainly become more important. It is therefore very pertinent to identify regional cooperation schemes in space cooperation and their role in developing countries, regions and overall space sector. This motivation of sharing experiences and discussion among different regional organizations constitutes the basis for this year's workshop.

Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), as the Multilateral Inter-Governmental Organization, provides a platform for cooperative activities and capacity building in Member States in the field of space science, technology and its applications. This year, the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), in collaboration with European Space Agency (ESA) and China Institute of Space Law (CISL) plans to organize the Space Law Workshop in Sanya, China on 6-8 September 2021.

APSCO contributes to building capacity in the field of space law and policy in its Member States, and has been biennially organizing "Space Law and Policy Workshop/Forum" since 2011 and training back-to-back these events, as part of its two knowledge-exchange platforms. These events provide a unique knowledge-sharing platform for the executives at the national space agencies and space authorities in the Member States of APSCO, to learn from each other's experiences and create a common understanding on the legal and policy challenges confronting the outer-space environment and provide a chance to share the development of their national space laws, new national space legislation, and development in Space policies.

The European Space Agency (ESA) is an intergovernmental organization comprising 22 member states dedicated to the peaceful use and exploration of space. Established in 1975 and headquartered in Paris, ESA has a worldwide staff of about 2,200 and an annual budget of about 6.68 billion euros in 2020. ESA's space programme activities include all fields of peaceful uses of outer space, including human spaceflight through ESA's participation in the International Space Station, the launch and operation of uncrewed exploration missions to other planets and the Moon; Earth observation, science, navigation and telecommunication. Through the ESA Ariane and Vega programme, ESA secures Europe's access to space. ESA has several facilities within Europe and notably a spaceport in French Guiana in Kourou. ESA carries out a wide range of projects through international cooperation, notably with U.S., Russia and China.

China Institute of Space Law (CISL) was founded in 1992 as a national academic institution in the field of space law and policy, aiming at carrying out tasks for fostering the development of space law and supporting cooperation and academic exchanges between China's space law community and that of the world. CISL has now over 200 individual and institutional members from state departments, space law and policy research institutions, space science and technology research and application institutions, universities and law firms. Since its inception, CISL has been actively promoting national space legislation, participating in space law and policy related activities at home and abroad, publicizing and popularizing space law, organizing academic research projects and holding annual symposium on space law.

## **Event Announcement**

“APSCO/ESA/CISL Space Law Workshop 2021”, shall be organized on **6-8 September 2021** in Sanya, China. The theme of the workshop is *Regional Cooperation Schemes on Space Law and Policy*.

## **Workshop Format**

The workshop is planned to be conducted in hybrid format, that includes participation of the relevant scholars, experts and institutions on-site from China and virtually from Member State of APSCO and other international organizations and international space community. However, if the COVID-19 situation is improved and travel restriction are relaxed, the workshop shall be hosted on-site completely.

## **Targeted Audience and Expected Participants**

The Workshop is planned for a total of 80 participants including decision- and policy-makers from national space agencies, governmental bodies, experts from the space community, private sector representatives, researchers/students from academia that are involved in space activities, representing developing and developed nations from all economic regions, space law and policy executives from APSCO Member States, and especially officials from different regional organizations related to space.

Through this workshop, the participants would be able to exchange views on the regional cooperation schemes in space law and policy, explore the possible legal tools for regional space cooperation, share their practices in cooperation programme designing and implementation. In this connection, APSCO would like to invite participants from APSCO Member States, as well as other countries and regional organizations to share their profound experiences, valuable thoughts, and insights in this workshop.

## **Workshop Objectives**

The objectives of the workshop will be as follows:

- (a) To exchange information on regional cooperation mechanisms and policies in space law policy and other legal and regulatory issues related to space activities.
- (b) To identify the best practices and share experiences on working of regional organizations and their contributions to space law, policy and space governance.
- (c) To discuss the contribution of regional organizations in development of space law and space sector.
- (d) To consider trends in and challenges to international space law; taking into account the role and responsibilities of regional organizations.
- (e) To consider mechanisms for increasing regional and international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space;
- (f) To discuss the role of educational institutions in promoting regional cooperation in space law, with a view to promoting national expertise and capacity in this field.

## **Preliminary Programme of the Workshop**

The tentative outline of the program is attached with the announcement.

## **Working Methods**

The workshop will mainly comprise presentations followed by questions and answers. Participating institution from Member States of APSCO are expected to submit an abstract on the topics of the workshop in English, with 300-400 words including the following details: Presentation Title, Author Name, Affiliation, and e-mail address of the Speaker from the topics listed above.

Please note that changes to the presentations may be requested by Moderators to facilitate discussions.

Important dates to remember are:

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|---|----------------------------|
| a. Submission of Abstracts                  | 30 June, 2021              |
| b. Notification for Acceptance of abstracts | 15 July, 2021              |
| c. Submission of Scripts/Presentations      | 15 August, 2021            |
| d. Deadline for Registration                | 20 August, 2021            |
| e. Workshop                                 | <b>6-8 September, 2021</b> |

## **Language**

The working language of the workshop is English.

## **Contact Persons**

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**APSCO/ESA/CISL SPACE LAW WORKSHOP 2021**  
**6-8 September, 2021**  
**SANYA. CHINA**

**Tentative Programme(In Beijing Time)**

**DAY 1 – MONDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**OPENING SESSION**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 14:00-14:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____, APSCO</li> <li>• _____, CNSA</li> <li>• _____, ESA</li> <li>• _____, special message from international community personalities</li> </ul> |
|-------------|--|

*Group Photo*

**SESSION 1    Setting the Scene/ Rational for Regional Space Cooperation**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 14:30 – 16:30 | <p><u>Moderator</u><br/> <u>Rapporteur</u><br/> <u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of the Panel by the Moderator</li> <li>• Presentations:<br/> ESA Convention And Legal Experience<br/> APSCO<br/> African Regional Space Initiative: African Space Agency<br/> Arab Space Cooperation<br/> Latin American Space Initiatives</li> <li>• Panel Discussion</li> </ul> |
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| 16:30 – 16:40 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
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**SESSION 2    Legal Tool-Box for Regional Space Cooperation**

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|---------------|--|
| 16:40 – 19:00 | <p><u>Moderator</u><br/> <u>Rapporteur</u><br/> <u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panel discussion on:<br/> Legal basis and constitutional acts<br/> National contributions and benefits<br/> Programmatic phases: definition, development, launch and operations<br/> Project arrangements and results: IPRs<br/> Privileges and immunity<br/> Secretariat (SG vs DG)<br/> International cooperation</li> <li>• Q&amp;A</li> </ul> |
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**DAY 2 – TUESDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**SESSION 3**    **Programmatic Implementation**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 14:00 – 16:00 | <p><u>Moderator</u><br/><u>Rapporteur</u><br/><u>Speakers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Legal basis of programmes in cooperation and how are they elaborated</li><li>• Example from APSCO on the process leading to a specific programme resolution</li><li>• Example from ESA on the process leading to a specific programme resolution</li><li>• Example of satellite called “813”: first project of the Arab Space Cooperation Group established</li><li>• Examples of a space programme undertaken in international cooperation</li><li>• Q&amp;A</li></ul> |
|---------------|---|

16:00 – 16:10    *Coffee Break*

**SESSION 4**    **Contemporary Issues in Space law and the Role of Education Institutions**

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|---------------|--|
| 16:10 – 18:10 | <p><u>Moderator</u><br/><u>Rapporteur</u><br/><u>Speakers</u> (open topics related to theme)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>• Q&amp;A</li></ul> |
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19:00 - 20:00    Reception hosted by APSCO

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**DAY 3 –WEDNESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**CONCLUSIONS**

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 15:00 – 16:00 | <p><u>Moderator</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Session – I by ESA</li><li>• Session – II by APSCO</li><li>• Session – III by Interntainexpert/ or other prominent regional org</li><li>• Session – IV by CISL</li></ul> |
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**CLOSING CEREMONY**

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 16:00 – 16:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ESA</li><li>• CISL</li><li>• APSCO</li></ul> |
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**SIDE EVENTS (for on-site participants)**

**TECHNICAL VISIT**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 10:00-12:00 <b>6<sup>th</sup> Sep 2021</b> | The Ground Station of the Institute of Remote Sensing Applications Academy of Sciences in Sanya |
| 10:00-12:00 <b>8<sup>th</sup> Sep 2021</b> | Institute of Deep-sea Science and Engineering, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IDSSE, CAS)         |

**SIDE MEETING**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 10:00-11:30 <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sep 2021</b> | APSCO Space Law Institutions Alliance Initiative-Hainan Declaration |
|--|---|