



**ОРГАНИЗАЦИОННЫЙ КОМИТЕТ
Первого Международного Специализированного
симпозиума
«Космос и глобальная безопасность человечества»**



**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
First International Specialized Symposium
“Space & Global Security of Humanity”**

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**Your Excellency,
Dear Mr. Secretary General,**

Natural and man-made disasters continue to be one of the major threats to sustainable development of Humanity, causing extensive and sometimes irreparable damage to the economies of states and the world at large. Moreover, statistics show that the risk of disasters is increasing.

According to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, natural disasters occur in the world four times more often than 30 years ago, and the economic damage caused by their destruction has increased sevenfold.

Only from June 2008 to June 2009, the world experienced 343 disasters triggered by natural phenomena that have affected more than 42 million people, causing damage to the economy worth of \$ 57.4 billion. Despite the significant progress made in technologies for monitoring and controlling global processes on the urgent agenda is the task of creating of unified single global system of effective forecasting and early warning of devastating natural and man-made disasters.

One of the real tools to address this problem could be the initiative to establish International Global Monitoring Aerospace System (IGMASS) which, under the auspices and authority of the UN was unanimously supported by participants of the First International Specialized Symposium «Space and global security of Humanity» (2-4 November 2009, Limassol, Cyprus).

Having comprehensively discussed problems of ensuring seismic, environmental and geophysical security, delegates of this representative scientific forum came to a unanimous conclusion that IGMASS, which for the first time combines both existing and future space-based and air-ground-based means of monitoring, will provide ability of detection of early signs of global geophysical and technological disasters with a view to take all possible measures for their prevention, timely evacuation of people, reduction of the devastating effects and maximum rescue of material resources and values.

The discussion of the IGMASS project with participation of scientists and experts from more than 30 countries has shown interest in uniting efforts to address the problem of prediction of natural hazards and man-made disasters, as well as availability of significant technical, technological and scientific-methodical potential for creating of means for global monitoring of Earth and near-Earth space. Moreover, deployment and testing of ground and space segments of IGMASS can be started already in the next few years, and the system as a whole - over the next decade.

The problem under consideration has a pronounced planetary character, and we ask you, dear Mr. Secretary General, to consider the possibility of undertaking following measures:

1. To urge the consideration of the IGMASS draft materials by profile specialized UN committees and commissions on problems of Outer Space activities and initiation of its discussion in 2010 by the High-Level-Segments of UN bodies up to the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations.

2. To elevate the IGMASS project to the status of the UN program.

3. To combine efforts of governments, NGOs and scientific institutions in research and development in the interest of the IGMASS project.

Enclosed:

1. "Space and Security of Humanity" (a brochure describing the IGMASS project) – 22 pages;
2. Resolution of Symposium – 9 pages;
3. Resolution of the IAA working group on expertise of IGMASS project - 2 pages.

On behalf of Symposium Organizing Committee

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Secretary General of IAA

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