Symposium on International Space Cooperation in Promoting Economic and Social Development of Developing Countries is Successfully Held in Beijing

International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) and China Center for Aerospace Science and Technology International Communications (CCASTIC) of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) jointly organized the Symposium on International Space Cooperation in Promoting Economic and Social Development of Developing Countries and IAA Academy Day in Beijing on 25-26 November 2016. More than 200 delegates from government departments, embassies in China, space enterprises, space scientific research institutions of more than 10 countries like China, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Brazil, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Pakistan, Nigeria, Russia, the United States, Ukraine and Venezuela, as well as international organizations such as IAA, International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO) have attended this event.
Welcome speeches were given by Prof. Lei Fanpei, Chairman of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC), Prof. Hiroki Matsuo, Vice President of International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), Prof. Tian Yulong, Secretary General of China National Space Administration (CNSA) and Prof. Xu Guanhua, Former Minister of Science and Technology at the opening ceremony which was chaired by Mr. Hu Zhongmin, Director of IAA Studies Center.
During the Plenary Session, keynote speeches were given by Prof. Bao Weimin, Director of Science and Technology Committee of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) and Member of IAA Board of Trustee, and Prof. Hiroki Matsuo, Vice President of IAA. Then, Heads of Space Agencies such as Nigeria, Venezuela, Pakistan and Bolivia, as well as leaders from international space organizations like International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO) delivered presentations respectively. The Plenary Session was chaired by Prof. Wang Yiran, Vice President of China Center for Aerospace Science and Technology International Communications (CCASTIC) and Vice President and Secretary General of Chinese Society of Astronautics (CSA).

A Panel Discussion was held under the theme of future space cooperation which was chaired by Prof. Fu Zhiheng, Vice President of China Great Wall Industry
Corporation (CGWIC). The attending guests discussed the current situations, along with how to carry out international space cooperation particularly between developed countries and developing countries in space and put forward many constructive suggestions.

The final part was the IAA Induction Ceremony chaired by Ms. Xu Tong, Deputy Director of IAA Studies Center. Six newly elected IAA members from China 2016 were inducted by IAA Vice President Liu Jiyuan and Hiroki Matsuo.
During the symposium, a Photo Exhibition was held simultaneously which displayed over 50 historical and commemorative photos showing the development and achievements of China space industry in international cooperation. The program also included a technical visit to the Aerospace Breeding Base of Beijing Shenzhou Lvpeng Agricultural Science and Technology Co., Ltd on 26 November which more than 30 guests participated.

After deliberated by all attending guests, the symposium released the following Initiative which proposes actively discussion and various forms of cooperation between developed countries and developing countries in space and make common efforts on promoting the well-being of all mankind by means of space development.
**Initiative of Symposium on International Space Cooperation in Promoting Economic and Social Development of Developing Countries**

The Symposium on International Space Cooperation in Promoting Economic and Social Development of Developing Countries, jointly organized by China Center for Aerospace Science and Technology International Communications (CCASTIC) and International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), was held in Beijing on November 25, 2016. The representatives of government departments, space enterprises, space scientific research institutions from countries including Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia, USA, Ukraine and Venezuela as well as the representatives from IAA and other international organizations attended the symposium. Based on the theme of international space cooperation in promoting economic and social development of developing countries, the symposium made in-depth discussion through keynote reports and technical sessions together with panel and has agreed on the following:

1. Outer space is the common wealth of mankind. Exploration, development and utilization of outer space are an unremitting pursuit of mankind. International space cooperation has become an important way to develop space industry in various countries and even in the whole world, and help space industry to promote the progress of human society better, considering the characteristics of space such as high technology, high yield, even though high risk, high investment and long cycle.

2. Following the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries of the United Nations, activate the discussion of international cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, to promote peaceful use and common development, especially in the areas such as helping the developing countries to strengthen their space capacity building, enhance the capability of space technology applications, and training space related people. It makes all countries and people to share the benefits of exploration and use of outer space.

3. Supporting the proposals from the Space as a Driver for Socio-Economic Sustainable Development series forums of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and strengthen the coordinated cooperation in economy, environment, society, policy and management of space agencies worldwide to jointly put forward the global sustainable development.

4. Supporting the activities in peaceful use of outer space organized by the framework of the United Nations as well as the activities of the inter-governmental and non-governmental space organizations for the purpose of promoting the development of space industry.

5. The established space countries and regions shall strengthen space cooperation with the developing countries to help them improve their space capacity, and share the benefits of space applications with them.

6. Governments shall encourage and support multi-level and diversified international space discussion and cooperation between space scientific institutions, enterprises, universities and social organizations under the guidance of national policies and regulations, to promote the popularization and development of space technology and application.

7. It is suggested that IAA and CCASTIC work together to continue to promote international discussion and pragmatic cooperation of space technology and application based on the theme of space cooperation in promoting economic and social development of developing countries.