**Annex 2: Proposed Joint Statement on Disaster Mitigation Cooperation in Developing Countries**

1. We held the first multilateral meeting on Space Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia on 27 August 2013 to strengthen international cooperation on disaster management.

2. Every year countries across the world - both rich and poor - have witnessed thousands of natural disasters. While developed countries generally have the technological resources needed to respond and recover from major disasters, the effect natural disasters can have on the environment and society of less developed countries can be devastating and long-lasting. Many efforts have been made to address disaster issues by the governments of developing counties. Effectively dealing with disasters involves not only national governments, but also international organizations.

3. We have accumulated invaluable expertise such as Earth observations and technologies tied to Digital Earth - a global effort to create a virtual representation of the entire planet - to reduce costs and resources needed to monitor and mitigate natural disasters and their effects. We stress the need for continuing efforts to provide full and open access to Earth observations and related products, and to strengthen multilateral cooperation on disaster mitigation using space technology.

4. Based on the recognition that it is important to share the expertise and information on the past efforts and current challenges facing developing countries in order to promote concrete multilateral cooperation in the future, we commit to set a Joint Working Group to address the challenges of improving scientific capacity in space technology for disaster mitigation in developing countries.

5. We exchanged views on further multilateral cooperation on disaster management in the following areas, with cooperation among the relevant government agencies of developing countries:

*(1) Holding expert-level seminars, which facilitate the broad discussion of capacity development for disaster risk reduction, innovative Earth observation products and tools for disaster management , and spatial technology and integrated disaster research.*

*(2) Strengthening cooperation with disaster management organizations and institutions located in developing countries.*

6. We shared the view to hold the multilateral meeting annually. The meeting will be held in conjunction with disaster/Earth Observation related international conferences.