

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
AND
THE MULTI GLOBAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEM ASIA**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Multi-Global Navigation Satellite Systems Asia (MGA) reaffirm their desire to work together in areas of mutual interest through the present Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

II. PURPOSE OF ESCAP-MGA COOPERATION

2. The mandate of ESCAP is to promote regional cooperation for inclusive economic and social development in the Asia and Pacific region. MGA is an international organization with 54 members from 20 countries which promotes multi global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) in Asia and Oceania regions and encourages GNSS service providers and user communities to develop new applications and business. MGA activities are endorsed by the International Committee on GNSS (ICG) and its activities are reported annually in the ICG providers' forum.

III. GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR ESCAP-MGA COOPERATION

3. ESCAP and MGA will be guided by the following general principles:
- (a) Mutual respect and support, client orientation and accountability for effectively delivering support on crosscutting issues, such as resilience building and disaster risk reduction;
 - (b) Cooperation in line with the objectives of the Regional Roadmap for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

IV. FOCUS OF ESCAP- MGA JOINT ACTIVITIES

4. The priority areas for joint activities would include those listed in the Appendix to this MoU, which may be amended from time to time with the mutual written consent of

the Parties. In line with the mandates of both organizations, ESCAP and MGA plan to work together in the following areas:

- (a) Strengthening ESCAP and MGA regional platforms and events to promote the applications of space technology, in particular, the utilization of multiple GNSS;
- (b) Joint implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018 - 2030);
- (c) Joint promotion of the use of multiple GNSS and other up-to-date space solutions to enhance cost effective national systems on tsunami early warning, disaster alert messaging, precision agriculture, road safety and smart transportation systems (including intelligent transport systems), with a focus on sharing knowledge and experiences across the region;
- (d) Joint organization of capacity building and training activities for researchers and professionals in the area of multiple GNSS applications;
- (e) Joint resource mobilization for the promotion of applications of space technology.

V. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

5. ESCAP and MGA recognize that effective cooperation depends on open, comprehensive and regular exchange of information at the institutional level. They agree to make appropriate arrangements to:

- (a) provide copies of relevant publications and all public documents of each organization to the main library of the other organization to be maintained as reference documents; and
- (b) give notice, through information posted on the websites of each organization, of:
 - conferences, seminars and workshops being organized or sponsored;
 - regional, country, sector and thematic policy/strategy documents;
 - programme and project approval documents; and
 - regional programme, country programme, sectoral, project and other evaluations.

VI. RECIPROCAL INVITATIONS

6. ESCAP and MGA recognize that appropriate representation is important for the purpose of joint positioning and advocacy. They agree that:

- (a) reciprocal invitations will be extended to the other organization to attend the annual meetings of MGA and the ESCAP annual Commission sessions; and
- (b) invitations to other meetings, conferences, seminars and workshops relevant to cooperation in the priority areas set out in the Appendix to this MoU will be sent, where appropriate.

VII. PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS

7. ESCAP and MGA recognize that it is important to convene periodic consultations to review what is being planned, what is being implemented, and what is being achieved in terms of results as well as to discuss new challenges, opportunities and problems. They agree to hold such consultations periodically as required.

VIII. FOCAL POINTS FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE MOU

8. ESCAP and MGA agree to designate as focal points for the activities under this MoU:

- (a) for ESCAP: Director, ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division
- (b) for MGA: Secretary General, Multi-GNSS Asia

IX. MONITORING OF THE MOU AND JOINT ACTIVITIES

9. ESCAP and MGA will prepare a list with a brief description of all planned cooperation activities for the period of the MoU.

10. ESCAP and MGA agree that the respective focal points will review the status of implementation of the cooperation activities, including an assessment of results achieved.

X. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND USE OF INSTITUTIONAL EMBLEMS

11. ESCAP and MGA recognize that the involvement of both organizations in joint cooperation activities needs to be publicized. They agree that:

- (a) there will be public acknowledgment of the role and contribution of each organization to cooperation projects in all public information documentation related to such cooperation; and
- (b) the use of emblems of each organization in documentation related to cooperation will be in accord with the current policies of each organization concerning such usage.

XI. MISCELLANEOUS

12. The term of this MoU will be from the date of signature by both Parties until 28 May 2021.

13. Any specific activities under this MoU shall be covered by a project document or written agreement.

14. This MoU may be amended by mutual written consent of the Parties.

15. This MoU may be terminated by either Party on six months' notice in writing.

Signed on 27 May 2019 at UN ESCAP Headquarter, Bangkok, Thailand.

For the United Nations Economic and Social
Commission for Asia and the Pacific

For the Multi-Global Navigation
Satellite Systems Asia



Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana

Under-Secretary-General of the United
Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP

Mr. Satoshi Kogure

Co-Chair
MGA

APPENDIX

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ESCAP-MGA COOPERATION

1. Organization of the Multi-GNSS Asia (MGA) Annual Conference and other events relevant to implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018 - 2030), with a focus on applications of GNSS disaster alert messaging, Multi-GNSS for precision agriculture, road safety and smart transportation systems (including intelligent transport systems).
2. Sharing experiences on building national tsunami warning systems in a cost-effective way.
3. Enhancing capacity building and training activities for policy makers and young researchers in the area of multiple-GNSS applications, including through participation in summer school training.
4. Inviting MGA and its partners to attend the Asia-Pacific Business Forum.

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand

SPMD/MOU/GEN

17 August 2021

Dear Mr. Kogure,

**Memorandum of Understanding between
the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
and the Multi-Global Navigation Satellite System Asia (MGA)**

Reference is made to the Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Multi-Global Navigation Satellite System Asia (MGA) signed on 27 May 2019 (the “MOU”), on strengthening ESCAP and MGA regional platforms and events to promote the applications of space technology across a range of sectors involving disaster risk reduction, smart transport and environment sustainability among others, in particular, the utilization of multiple global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) in Asia and Oceania regions.

In the past three years, ESCAP has been closely collaborated with MGA in implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018 - 2030), supporting Multi-GNSS Asia Rapid Prototype Development (RPD) Challenge for disaster management, developing Geospatial Practices for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific 2020: A Compendium, and contributing to regional workshop/seminar and capacity building/training for countries in Southeast Asia.

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Mr. Satoshi Kogure
Co-Chair of Multi-GNSS Asia (MGA)
Executive Director of QZSS Office
National Space Policy Secretariat
Cabinet Office
The Government of Japan

cc: Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, Director, Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP

Building on past success and with your concurrence, we would like to propose that the MOU which expired on 28 May 2021 be extended up to 27 May 2026, for exploring more opportunities to create synergies and collaboration in promoting the implementation of Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018 – 2030), in accordance with paragraph 14 of the MOU. All other terms and conditions under the MOU shall remain unchanged.

If the above terms are agreeable to you, we would kindly request you to inform ESCAP of your acceptance in writing.

Yours sincerely,



Adnan H. Aliani
Director
Strategy and Programme Management Division



30 August 2021

Mr. Adnan H. Aliani
Director
Strategy and Programme Management Office
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia

Dear Mr. Aliani,

I am writing on behalf of the Multi-GNSS Asia (MGA) to express our sincere appreciation to your continuous support to the activities of MGA and also to the expansion of the Memorandum of Understanding between United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia (ESCAP) and the Pacific and MGA to enhance further cooperation in our joint activities.

Reference is made to the Memorandum of Understanding between the ESCAP and the MGA signed on 27 May 2019 (the "MOU"), on strengthening ESCAP and MGA regional platforms and events to promote the applications of space technology across a range of sectors involving disaster risk reduction, smart transport and environment sustainability among others, in particular, the utilization of multiple global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) in Asia and Oceania regions as well as your letter of 17 August 2021 proposing the extension of the MOU by five years. This is to confirm MGA has accepted the proposal to extend the MOU in accordance with your letter of 17 August 2021.

Look forward to further cooperation and contribution to the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018 – 2030).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Satoshi Kogure', is written over a faint, light blue circular stamp or watermark.

Satoshi Kogure

Co-Chair, Multi-GNSS Asia

Executive Advisor, National Space Policy Secretariat, Cabinet Office

C.C. Ms. Tiziana Bonapace
Director
Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific