STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA
1ST INTERNATIONAL SPACE FORUM (ISF)
23-24 OCTOBER 2016 TRENTO, ITALI

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates

I would like to express our delegation's great pleasure of being here, and we would also like to express our appreciation to the dedication and efforts of International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), International Astronautical Federation (IAF) and The Italian Space Agency (ASI) for their untiring efforts in ensuring the smooth running of this forum.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates

The Federal government of Malaysia, led by our Prime Minister Honourable Dato Sri Najib Tun Razak is continuing its agenda on the Government Transformation Program (GTP) and providing services to the public with its charter '*People first, performance now*'.

In line with the same spirit and courage, Malaysia will continually be seeking opportunities to collaborate and enhance its capacity and capability in implementing peaceful uses of outer space for the benefit of our nation and mankind globally, emphasizing on the principles of equal and non-discriminatory access to outer space and equal conditions for all States, irrespective of their level of scientific, technical and economic development.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates

Malaysia's space endeavour has progressed significantly by embarking on its next satellite launching project that is on the third Malaysian Earth observation satellite, RazakSAT-2, which is expected to have better quality of image acquisition compared to the Malaysia's previous launched earth observation satellites TiungSAT-1 and RAZAKSAT by carrying a 1-meter resolution of panchromatic and 4-meter resolution of multispectral optical imaging capabilities.

The establishment of the facility complex is also aiming at providing regional and global space community with satellite manufacturing and testing services and all are invited to experience those facilities by contacting the National Space Agency of Malaysia (ANGKASA) of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Malaysia. In this respect, Malaysia is continually aiming to become the hub for satellite manufacturing service provider for the South East Asian Region through the completion of the installation of those facilities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

With the imminent threat from space, Malaysia has joined other space community nations hand in hand to contribute information and knowledge towards minimizing and eliminating the danger from above.

The completion of Langkawi National Observatory in 2007 will serve to provide research facility for solar and stellar observation. The

Observatory equipped with seven telescopes and recently added another telescope for Near Earth Object (NEO) monitoring. In addition, the observatory also equipped with an automatic weather station, cloud and rain sensors and an all-sky camera to monitor the weather condition and the upper sky of the observatory. The observatory will provide sunspot observation and solar activity monitoring continuously and consistently to the international space weather communities.

Moreover, Malaysia have developed the Malaysia Space Environment & Satellite Application Centre (My-SES) to further expand the reach of space weather education and space application benefits locally and internationally. Among the objectives for this initiatives is to centralized space weather data for monitoring and forecasting space weather activities.

Malaysia is also part of International Center for Space Weather Science and Education (ICSWSE) in the MAGDAS project. (MAGDAS stands for MAGnetic Data Acquisition System). The MAGDAS instrument have been deployed in Malaysia since 2006 and it is still operating. The objective of the initiatives is to observe the dynamics of geo-space plasma changes during magnetic storms and auroral substorms, the electro-magnetic response of iono-magnetosphere to various solar wind changes, and the penetration and propagation mechanisms of from the solar wind into the equatorial ionosphere.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Natural disasters are any catastrophic event that is caused by nature or the natural processes of the earth. The severity of a disaster is measured in lives lost, economic loss, and the ability of the population to rebuild. Most of natural disasters are unpredictable but the constant monitoring natural occurrence and the preparedness of the after effects could be very critical to minimize the impact.

Applying space technology in disaster mitigation measures to eliminate or reduce the impacts and risks of hazards from natural disasters are one of the most effective method. Malaysian government through The Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) is constantly upgrading the meteorological, climatological and geophysical service system using space technology.

Malaysia has established National R&D CORS Network (NRC-net) with the collaboration of Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, MET Malaysia, Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia and Marine Department of Malaysia.

NRC-net objectives among others are to provide precise and accurate navigation satellite data correction services to related local and international agencies for monitoring earth atmosphere and tectonic movement.

Malaysia is a member of SENTINEL ASIA as a Data Analysis Node (DAN). Sentinel Asia aims to promote international cooperation to monitor natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region with the aim to

mitigate and prevent damage caused by natural disasters such as typhoons, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcano eruptions and wildfires. These images from SENTINEL ASIA will be complementing the images from Malaysia Remote Sensing of Malaysia (ARSM) in disaster mitigation activities on affected areas.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the international level, Malaysia has also actively involved in scientific collaborations in order to further enhance our capability and capacity in earth protection from space activities.

Malaysia has continually involved with the International Space Weather Initiative (ISWI). A National Steering Committee was formed and several instruments related to space weather monitoring and observation are being set-up covering the entire nation. Starting in June 2012, a service to continuously warn and notify relevant stakeholders on the event of space weather risks has commenced and it is still being continued until now.

In closing, Mr. Chair, I would like to reiterate that Malaysia is fully committed to further our commitment in the international cooperation on peaceful uses of outer space in the future.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.