



Welcome Addresses

Dr. Kohei Cho
General Secretary, Asian Association on Remote Sensing

Dear International Colleagues, On behalf of the Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS), I would like to welcome you all to the 32nd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS) to be held in Taipei from October 3 to 7, 2011. This will be the second time for us to organize ACRS in Taipei. As many of you may remember, the 21st ACRS was successfully organized in Taipei in 2000. The conference will be held at the Taipei International Convention Center (TICC) located at the center of Taipei, exactly the same place where we organized ACRS in 2000. TICC is one of the largest and most convenient convention centers in Taipei. Many good hotels, restaurants, and shops are located nearby. The Organizing Committee booked the place two years ago, and had been preparing for the 32nd ACRS. Last year, I visited TICC with the members of the Organizing Committee. All the sessions and the commercial exhibition will be organized on the 1st floor, makes easy access from one room to another. The welcome party will also be organized at the same building. I was quite impressed with the good preparation and energetic works of the Organizing Committee. The success of the wonderful conference is promising. I would like to thank Prof. Shue-Chia Wang, Prof. Linag-Chien Chen and all the Organizing Committee members for their tremendous efforts for the preparation.



On this occasion, I would like to remind you about the latest progress of ACRS and AARS. So far, 27 countries and regions from Asia and 11 countries and organizations from outside Asia are members of AARS. The world interest to ACRS and AARS is increasing. On the occasion of ISPRS 100 years anniversary organized in Vietnam in July 2010, four regional remote sensing organizations namely SELPER (Sociedad de Especialistas Latinoamericanos en Percepcion Remota) from Latin America, AARSE (African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment) from Africa, EARSeL (European Association of Remote Sensing Laboratories) from Europe and we AARS from Asia signed a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) for the future cooperation. This may reinforce and expand the international activities of AARS. Promotion of students and young scientists is one of the most important objectives of ACRS. At the 31st ACRS organized in November 2010 in Hanoi, Vietnam, we set up two new awards. One is the Shunji Murai Award sponsored by Japan, and the other is the Innovation Award sponsored by China. The Shunji Murai Award will be given to the author younger than 40 years who has submitted the best paper to the ACRS. The Innovation Award will be given to authors of the papers who have submitted the most innovative papers to the ACRS. We would like to encourage active young scientists and students to submit their papers to the 32nd ACRS. At the 31st ACRS, the ISPRS Student Summer School was organized just after the conference. More than 40 students and young scientists from Asia attended the one week summer school. This was the cooperative work of ISPRS and ACRS. We are planning to organize the summer school again after the 32nd ACRS. We welcome your active participation.

As Prof. Murai always says, the ACRS is keeping the following philosophy.

- (1) Friendship First and Money After!
- (2) For Asian, by Asian and with Asian!
- (3) Asian style with Asian culture!

Let us all get together at the 32nd ACRS in Taipei to present papers, discuss technical issues, exchange ideas, and sing & dance together with friends in Asia!

Thank you.

PS: As you may know, on March 11, 2011, the huge areas along the coast of the northeastern region of Japan were seriously damaged by the earthquake and tsunami. Many people lost their families, houses, towns and jobs. In order to investigate the wide spread damages, remote sensing is necessary. Let's think what we can do with remote sensing for the disaster management and future recovery. We appreciated your kind help and contribution.

Dr. Lou-Chuang Lee
Minister of the National Science Council



Dear conference attendees, sponsors, and exhibitors: Welcome to the 32nd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS2011) in Taipei. It is a great privilege and honor for me today to deliver this welcome address as an honorary chairman of ACRS2011.

Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS) was officially formed in 1981. In the past three decades, numerous experts, scientists and professionals have been drawn from different fields to get together annually in Asian Conferences on Remote Sensing which have been held under the auspices of AARS to share research findings, and exchange ideas with other professionals for improving and developing new technologies and applications of remote sensing science.

With outstanding contributions and efforts from public organizations, private sectors, and individuals, the scope of Asian Conference on Remote Sensing have gradually become broader, and the growing numbers of participants have constantly refreshed new records. Being a scientist and organizer of the conference, I am really happy to see the trend toward gaining more participation and involvement that are increasingly important to the sustainable development of Asian Conference on Remote Sensing. As the minister of the National Science Council and former director of the National Space Program Office (National Space Organization) of Taiwan, I am also proud of our contribution in remote sensing and related applications.

As scientists, we cannot forget our social responsibilities while enjoying the harvest. There was a time when science was considered to be completely divorced from ordinary life. They said that scientists built an "ivory tower" in which they sheltered and pretended that their work had nothing to do with human welfare. However, today we should not evade our responsibilities to society anymore. On the contrary, we should support people and find solutions to ensure the sustainability of human society while also sharing serious problems, such as issues concerning the environment, resources and energy, to be solved on a global scale.

Once again, thank you for your participation. In addition to the unforgettable and meaningful conference, we hope that you spare a little time during your stay in Taipei to appreciate the beauty of Taipei, experience the friendly people and culture, and taste authentic Taiwanese delicacies.

Dr. Wei-Ling Chiang *President, National Central University*



Dear distinguished guests and participants, On behalf of National Central University (NCU), I would like to extend my warmest greetings to all of you participating in ACRS2011. It is a great honor for NCU's Center for Space and Remote Sensing Research (CSRSR) to co-organize the 32nd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS) with Chinese Taipei Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (CTSPRS) and Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS) in Taipei. All my colleagues in CSRSR have been contributing to the Conference, and are proud of being part of the group.

Established in the Chinese city of Nanjing in 1902, National Central University was reestablished in Miaoli, Taiwan in 1962, and was relocated to Zhongli in 1968. The Earth science was an essential and indispensable part during the reestablishment of National Central University in Taiwan. Over the decades, NCU has become a leading school in the fields of geophysics, space science, and remote sensing, and was selected as one of the major research-oriented universities in 2001.

In recent years, various natural disasters took place around the world including earthquake, tsunami, flood, landslide, drought, volcanic eruption, and hurricane, which were responsible for numerous deaths and serious injuries. Scientists even predict that climate change and global warming will further increase the frequency and severity of natural hazards. Therefore, the issues on disaster prediction and mitigation and environmental protection have become much more important these days than in any other time in human history accordingly.

To build up worldwide cooperation networks, CSRSR of NCU has actively extended internationalization, and promoted its cooperation with many countries. We hope that through the Conference all participants from different fields share ideas and findings about researches and applications, as well as to find solutions for deteriorated environmental problems and saving our Mother Earth. May ACRS2011 enjoy a complete success!

Dr. Liang-Chien Chen *President, Chinese Taipei Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*

On behalf of Chinese Taipei Society of Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing (CTSPRS), and Center for Space and Remote Sensing Research (CSRSR), National Central University (NCU), I would like to welcome you to participate in the 32nd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing (ACRS2011).

Over the past several years, numerous devastating natural catastrophes took place around the world and caused significantly casualties. People suffered from earthquake, tsunami, flood, landslide, drought, as well as volcano eruption, and subsequently, people lost their families and properties. Accordingly, scientists and scholars internationally contribute their expertise to save the Earth we live on. Of course, remote sensing is one of the essential and valuable technologies that scientists use to implement the important mission.

The 32nd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing with theme of Sensing for Green Asia is a great opportunity for the participants from research and educational institutions, government agencies, and industrial enterprises to discuss and share ideas and findings about researches and applications, as well as to create dynamic networks and collaborations. Being the organizer of ACRS2011, we have been working hard to make this conference a really memorable experience for all participants who contribute to all aspects of remote sensing and spatial information sciences, especially for issues of environmental protection, and disaster prevention and mitigation. The concurrent activities include ACRS main program, ISPRS WG VI/1.2 Workshop, 7th ISPRS Student Consortium and WG VI/5 Summer School, Pre-conference Tutorials, and IEEE GRSS Workshop.

In 2000, the 21th ACRS was successfully held in Taipei, where is the location of ACRS2011. In the past decade, Taipei has remarkably changed in many ways at a rapid pace due to fast economic growth, turning itself to a modern international metropolis with skyscrapers, museums, department stores, convenient public transportation systems, as well as civilized citizens. Confucius, the greatest Chinese philosopher, said, "Isn't it a great pleasure to have friends coming from afar?" (有朋自遠方來，不亦樂乎?). We will be delighted to have all of you not only to participate in ACRS2011 for sharing and exchanging information on remote sensing, but also to experience different Taiwanese cultures and Taiwanese hospitality. Once again, welcome to the 32nd Asian Conference on Remote Sensing in Taipei.

