CHARTER
OF THE CHINESE-RUSSIAN JOINT RESEARCH CENTER ON SPACE WEATHER
constituted by
The National Space Science Center, Chinese Academy of Sciences
and
The Institute of Solar-Terrestrial Physics, Siberian Branch,
Russian Academy of Sciences

General
The National Space Science Center, Chinese Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as NSSC, formerly known as the Center for Space Science and Applied Research, CSSAR) and The Institute of Solar-Terrestrial Physics of Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences, (hereinafter referred to as ISTP), hereinafter referred to as the "Parties", pursuant to the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation Between the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SB RAS) signed on October 13, 1999, and to the Agreement for joint studies on solar-terrestrial physics and its applications signed by CSSAR and ISTP on November 2, 2000, have decided to establish the Joint Research Center on Space Weather (hereinafter referred to as the "Center").
Taking into account the more than 11-years positive results of mutual cooperation within the framework of the Center, according to the new Agreement for joint research in solar-terrestrial physics between NSSC CAS and ISTP SB RAS, the Parties have decided to extend a term of the Center by additional 5 (five) years making some modifications in the Charter of the Center.
The Parties have agreed on the following Articles of the Center.

Article 1
Scope and objectives
1.1. The purpose of this Charter is:
1.1.1. to define the managerial, technical and operational interaction which shall be necessary to ensure continuity of and compatibility between the respective activities;
1.1.2. to define the roles and responsibilities of the Parties; and
1.1.3. to define the legal and financial obligations of the Parties.
1.2. The principal objective of the Center is to organize and promote successful cooperation between NSSC and ISTP.
1.3. The objectives of the Center include:
1.3.1 Evaluation of the scientific and application significance of joint research projects, and promotion of their implementation.

1.3.2 The realization of exchanges of scientists and graduate students related to the implementation of joint research projects.

1.3.3 Management of the cooperation program implementation with funding from both the Chinese and Russian sides separately.

1.3.4 Organization of joint workshops and/or international workshops on relevant research topics.

1.3.5 Attraction of third parties to participate in joint research projects.

**Article 2**

**Organization and management of the Center**

2.1 All joint research activities in the field of space physics and space weather pursued between ISTP and NSSC shall be organized and carried out under the direct guidance of the Center.

2.2 The Center shall have two co-directors (representing NSSC and ISTP, respectively). Each co-director shall be responsible for organizing and directing the respective National Science Working Team of the Center (hereinafter referred to as NSWT). The co-directors shall appoint their respective executive secretaries as contact persons.

2.3 The offices of the management bodies of the Center shall be formally established by both Parties at NSSC and ISTP, respectively.

**Article 3**

**Joint research areas**

3.1 Joint research activities shall focus on the study of space weather, including research into the physical processes associated with any space weather disturbances - from the Sun to the Earth's atmosphere, and on predictions of the said disturbances.

3.2 The particular research areas are defined hereunder as follows:

3.2.1 Solar activities related to solar storms.

3.2.2 Propagation of solar storms through the solar corona and interplanetary space.

3.2.3 Dynamic processes at different spatial and temporal scales which are associated with geospace storms and substorms.

3.2.4 Propagation of disturbances from high to middle and low latitudes of the Earth's ionosphere and atmosphere.

3.2.5 Feedbacks and coupling between geospace and the atmosphere in a global context.

3.2.6 Global space weather system and its response to external impacts.

3.2.7 Diagnostics of the geospace, and forecasting principles and modeling.

**Article 4**

**Project management**

4.1 Joint research projects shall be defined via mutual negotiations, scientific meetings or otherwise. The joint research group shall submit a project proposal to both offices of the Center simultaneously.

4.2 The co-directors with consultation from the institute's scientific council shall evaluate the project and exchange their respective evaluations in written form. In the event that the evaluations of both parties are positive, the project shall be approved, and in the process of its implementation the Parties are entitled to use funds from each party and other support from funding agencies of both countries.

4.3 Scientific progress reports on all joint research projects shall be submitted to a bilateral workshop once every other year.
4.4 Routine project management shall be carried out by the offices of the Center.

Article 5
Workshops
5.1 Regular bilateral scientific workshops with the participation of both NSSC and ISTP shall be held no more rarely than once per two years.
5.2 A progress report on all joint research projects shall be submitted to such a workshop.
5.3 New cooperation opportunities may be identified at such a workshop.
5.4 Participants from other institutes and universities, interested in appropriate topics, are also welcome.
5.5 The said workshop shall be organized by both Parties by turns, and the dates of a particular workshop should be discussed and announced at least half a year in advance.

Article 6
Financial management
6.1 An operation fund of the Center shall be provided by both Parties in accordance with the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation between the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SB RAS).
6.2 The use of the operation fund shall be limited to the following purposes:
6.2.1 Basic expenses to cover the exchange by the agreed-upon number of specialists, including visits of the Center's co-directors and their assistants.
6.2.2 Local expenses to support Center members who will work at the partner institutes.
6.2.3 Expenses for the arrangement of workshops and workshop proceeding publication.
6.2.4 Routine expenses, including for communication, etc.
6.3 Both Parties shall bear responsibility for supporting the approved joint research projects by using funds from any governmental and non-governmental agencies from both sides.
6.4 It is understood that the ability of NSSC and ISTP to carry out Items 6.1 and 6.3 is subject to their respective availability of funding.

Article 7
Rights to scientific data
7.1 Joint research programs should have the right to have access to relevant observational data, according to the project proposal, obtained by both Parties, irrespective of whether they are ground-based or space-borne data, for the purpose of implementing joint research projects.
7.2 Both Parties shall bear responsibility for keeping the copyright to data received from the other Party, and should not transfer them to a third party unless such third party shall also have been participating in the implementation of joint projects.
7.3 In every case other than Item 7.1 and 7.2, the rights to and the dissemination of scientific data in possession of NSSC shall be regulated by a general policy of NSSC.
7.4 In every case other than Item 7.1 and 7.2, the rights to and the dissemination of scientific data in possession of ISTP shall be regulated by a general policy of ISTP.

Article 8
Rights to research results, publications, inventions, and patents
8.1 The Parties jointly own the rights to all scientific results, publications, inventions, and patents which shall be output of joint research projects implemented by members of the Center.
Article 9
Amendments

9.1 This Charter may be amended at any time by a mutual written agreement between the Parties.

Article 10
Settlement of disputes

10.1 The Parties agree to consult with each other promptly whenever events occur or matters arise which may concern the question of interpretation or implementation of the terms of this Charter.

10.2 All disputes and differences which may arise out of or in connection with the interpretation or implementation of the terms of this Charter will be settled by means of negotiations between the Parties.

Article 11
Coming into force and termination

11.1 This Charter takes effect from the date of its approval, and remains in force during 5 (five) years unless it is terminated by a mutual agreement between the Parties in written form or by a notification of each of the Parties thereof 1 (one) year before such termination. The period of validity of the Charter may be prolonged for an additional period by a mutual agreement between the Parties via exchange of letters.

11.2 Any termination of the Charter shall not affect a party’s continuing research activities under the previous agreement and its related rights and obligations as per Articles 7 and 8 of this Charter unless otherwise agreed upon by the Parties.

The present Charter is made in two original copies in English.

Undersigned by Co-Directors of the Joint Research Center on Space Weather:

Professor Ji Wu

Date: April 26, 2012

Director of NSSC CAS

Professor A.P. Potekhin

Date: April 26, 2012

Director of ISTP SB RAS