I. INTRODUCTION

The African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) is a continental organization that deals with the harnessing, uptake and utilization of remote sensing, space science and geospatial technology to address Africa’s contemporary challenges for the benefit of society. To date, AARSE has worked with various agencies and organizations such as NASA, ESA, JAXA, Algerian Space Agency (ASAL), Ghana National Space Agency, National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences (NARSS), National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), South African National Space Agency (SANSA). As a member of the UN-ECA’s Executive Working Group on Geo-information, AARSE also participates in, and contributes to the activities of the UN-ECA Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST), sub-Committee on Geo-information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Up to 31st July 2016</th>
<th>After July 31, 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AARSE Members</td>
<td>USD 350</td>
<td>USD 400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ugandans</td>
<td>USD 170</td>
<td>USD 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non AARSE Members</td>
<td>USD 400</td>
<td>USD 450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 11th AARSE international conference, AARSE2016 will be held at Hotel Africana, Kampala, Uganda from 24th to 28th October 2016. Makerere University together with other organizations and institutions in Uganda are taking the lead in organizing the conference. At the international level, the AARSE Executive Council together with leading scientists in the fields of remote sensing, earth observation and space science will be involved in the conference organization to ensure a smooth running and realization of the conference goals. The conference is expected to host about 500 delegates from all over the world, covering keynote speakers, oral and poster presenters, exhibitors, organizers of special sessions and side events and policy makers. The gist of the conference is to learn from ongoing technological advancements and applications and to explore modalities of galvanizing space science and geospatial technologies into policy and evidence-based decision making that will contribute to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s), especially for Africa.

2. CONFERENCE THEME

The conference theme “Our Earth, Our Heritage: Harnessing geospatial technologies for sustainable development in Africa” recognizes not only the past efforts related to resource management challenges, but is also positioned to take care of the expected changes, owing to the post 2015 global development agenda.

Sub-themes

i. Space and earth observation technology for sustainable development goals (SDG’s)
ii. Disaster risk management and resilience
iii. From climate change to climate risk management
iv. Human capital development in geospatial science
v. Big Data and spatial data infrastructure utility and management
vi. Africa space policy and strategy: Cost benefit of space technology
vii. Geospatial science and technology for water and watershed management
viii. Conflict management, human security and peace
ix. Cities and demographic transitions
x. Geospatial technologies for Energy Management

3. ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

We invite you to submit an abstract for a presentation under the listed subthemes or special sessions. Abstracts will be scientifically reviewed in a timely manner. Abstracts can be submitted at: http://aarse2016.org/call-and-submission-abstracts.

4. PRESENTATION

Keynote presentations of 30 minutes will be given in plenary sessions. Oral presentations in the technical breakaway sessions will last about 20 minutes, followed by a lively discussion. The conference will be conducted in English. Attempts are being explored for translation to French as well.

Posters will be hanged on boards which will be provided at the conference venue and appropriate numbers for each poster presenter will be assigned. Mounting posters will be undertaken by authors on the assigned boards in advance of the dedicated poster session. Removal of posters will be done by authors following instructions given by the Local Organising Committee.
5. PUBLICATION
A book of all the accepted abstracts will be printed and distributed to conference participants. A record of conference proceedings will also be availed on a USB stick. Papers of high quality will be considered for publication in a special issue potentially in the Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation: (http://www.journals.elsevier.com/international-journal-of-applied-earth-observation-and-geoinformation).

6. AARSE AWARDS
AARSE-ESA will give an award for the best paper/poster.

7. TRAVEL GRANTS
Some grants (largely partial) to assist deserving applicants will be awarded to enable participation in the conference. These have been made possible with support from UNDP, IEEE GRSS/AARSE and Group on Earth Observation (GEO).

Eligibility for travel grants:
• Resident of a developing country preferably from Africa
• Should not have previously received such an award in the past
• AARSE members will have priority
• Submission of an accepted abstract

Grant applications can be downloaded from the conference website.

8. IMPORTANT DATES
Abstract submission 30 June 2016
Acceptance notification Continuous until 30 July 2016
Final paper submission 30 August 2016

9. REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT
Please refer to the contacts below or the website http://aarse2016.org/ for payment details.

10. ENQUIRIES
More information can be obtained by sending an email to: info@aarse2016.org

CONTACTS

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