

This is an unofficial translation of Iran's "Statute of the Iranian Space Agency". It is being offered to the readership of the JOURNAL OF SPACE LAW as a convenience.<sup>1</sup>

The Cabinet of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its meeting of June 11, 2005, according to proposal number 100/14310 dated 9 August 2004 of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and citing the Article 9 of the Law for Tasks and Authorizations of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology approved on 10 December 2003 by the Parliament, passed the statute of the Iranian Space Agency as follows:

## **STATUTE OF THE IRANIAN SPACE AGENCY**

**Article 1-** Aiming at implementing the approvals of the Space Supreme Council of Iran and the study, research, designing, engineering and conducting the issues of space service and remote sensing technologies, and strengthening the communication networks and space technology inside and out of the country, and collection of the sovereignty activities of the Iranian Remote Sensing Center and the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, benefiting the facilities and human resource of the Department of Design, Engineering and Installation of Satellite Communications and Department of Maintenance of Satellite Communications both affiliated with

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<sup>1</sup> Translated by Parviz Tarikhi (28 August 2008). The Persian version is available at <http://www.itna.ir/archives/documents/010742.php>. Mr. Tarikhi heads the Microwave Remote Sensing Department at the Mahdasht Satellite Receiving Station. He has been involved with the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS) since 2000, including as second vice-chair and rapporteur in 2004-06 of the committee bureau. Since 2001 he has co-chaired Action Team number 1 of UNISPACE-III with the mission "to develop a comprehensive worldwide environmental monitoring strategy". From 2004-07 he conducted the Office for Specialized International Co-operation of the Iranian Space Agency. He is also a freelance journalist and technical writer. Some of Mr. Tarikhi's writings may be found on the National Center for Remote Sensing, Air, and Space Law's website blog at <http://rescommunis.wordpress.com>.

the Telecommunications Company of Iran, the Iranian Space Agency which is briefly referred to as “Agency” in this Statute, is established.

**Article 2-** As a legal entity, the Agency is a financially independent official foundation affiliated with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

**Article 3-** Agency’s tasks and authorizations are as follows:

- I. Pursuance and implementing the approvals of the Space Supreme Council,
- II. Preparing and regulation of mid and long-term programs for country’s space sector in cooperation with related institutions for proposing to the Space Supreme Council,
- III. Study for policy making in designing, manufacturing, launching and using research and applied satellites and providing space services for proposing to the Space Supreme Council,
- IV. Planning to conduct and develop of the peaceful uses of outer space and space technology, strengthening the national, regional and international communication networks by the state, cooperative and private sectors and monitoring their implementation at the framework of the policies approved by the Space Supreme Council,
- V. Applied specific study, research and education in developing space science and technologies,
- VI. Studying the requirements and implementing satellite and other space technology projects in the framework of the approvals of the Space Supreme Council,
- VII. Contribution to the implementation of the regional and national satellite projects in the framework of the approvals of the Space Supreme Council,
- VIII. Issuing the authorization for the space activities aiming at sustained and coordinated exploitation of space technologies and facilities including satellites, direct receiving and transmitting stations, and satellite control in the framework of the approvals of the Space Supreme Council,

- IX. Cooperation with related clients for assessing the competence of non-governmental contractors and advisors for implementing space related executive and research issues in different parts of the country,
- X. Representing, membership and attending related international and regional societies and unions aiming at protecting national interests in the framework of the regime's main policies and other laws and regulations,
- XI. Implementing regional and international cooperation programs in space issues in the framework of the regime's main policies,
- XII. Management and exploitation of satellite and orbital positions in coordination with responsible bodies and pursuing their international registration for optimum use of the space sources,
- XIII. Preparing and formulating the regulations and statutes related to the tasks included in the Article 9 of the Law for Tasks and Authorizations of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology approved in 2003, for proposing to the legal clients.
- XIV. Establishing national archive and centralizing store, classification and updating of space data.

**Nota Bene 1-** The Agency is obliged to apply the highest capacity of the non-governmental sector in the framework of the policies of the Space Supreme Council for implementing its tasks and affairs.

**Nota Bene 2-** Distinguishing the security competence in the cases of the clauses VIII and IX in this Article will be the responsibility of the related clients.

**Article 4-** Agency's required credits will be provisioned and secured through the public funds and credits in the country's annual budget.

**Nota Bene 1-** The facilities, records, human resources and funds of the ongoing national and research projects in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology is transferred to the Agency.

**Nota Bene 2-** By coordination of the Management and Planning Organization of Iran and in the framework of the annual budgets the Agency could use the assistance and other fund sources of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and its affiliated organizations and companies, and other institutions.

**Article 5-** The organizational chart of the Agency after formulating by the Agency and confirmation of the Management and Planning Organization of Iran will be effectual.

**Article 6-** The president of the Agency that is the Deputy Minister of Communications and Information Technology and the secretary of the Space Supreme Council at the same time, will be appointed by the Minister of Communications and Information Technology and will hold the highest executive position at the Agency.

**Article 7-** The president of the Agency is responsible for well implementing the affairs, protecting the rights, interests and assets of the Agency, and for managing the Agency and implementing the approvals of the Space Supreme Council will have full right and authorization in the framework of the regulations. He/she will represent the Agency before all legal authorities and real and legal entities with the right to depute the authorization to others, and he/she can delegate on his recognition and trust part of his/her authorization by the official notification to either of his/her deputies, managers or Agency's staff.

The Guardian Council according to the letter number 84/30/12612 dated 18 June 2005 passed this Statute.

*Translated to English by: Parviz Tarikhi  
10 July 2008*

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The Cabinet of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its meeting of June 16, 2008, according to proposal number 1/27560 dated 9 August 2007 of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and citing Article 9 of the Law for Tasks and Authorizations of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology approved on December 10, 2003 by the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran, passed the statute of the Iranian Space Agency as follows:

## **STATUTE OF THE IRANIAN SPACE AGENCY**

**Article 1-** Aiming at implementing its legal tasks and the study, research, designing, engineering and conducting the issues of space service and remote sensing technologies, and strengthening the communication networks and space technology inside and out of the country, and collecting of the sovereignty activities of the Iranian Remote Sensing Center and the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, benefiting the facilities and human resource of the Department of Design, Engineering and Installation of Satellite Communications and Department of Maintenance of Satellite Communications both affiliated with the Telecommunications Company of

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<sup>1</sup> Translated by Parviz Tarikhi (28 August 2008). The Persian version is available at <http://www.itna.ir/archives/documents/010742.php>. Mr. Tarikhi heads the Microwave Remote Sensing Department at the Mahdasht Satellite Receiving Station. He has been involved with the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS) since 2000, including as second vice-chair and rapporteur in 2004-06 of the committee bureau. Since 2001 he has co-chaired Action Team number 1 of UNISPACE-III with the mission "to develop a comprehensive worldwide environmental monitoring strategy". From 2004-07 he conducted the Office for Specialized International Co-operation of the Iranian Space Agency. He is also a freelance journalist and technical writer. Some of Mr. Tarikhi's writings may be found on the National Center for Remote Sensing, Air, and Space Law's website blog at <http://rescommunis.wordpress.com>.

Iran, the Iranian Space Agency which is briefly referred to as "Agency" in this Statute, is established.

**Article 2-** As a legal entity, the Agency is a financially independent official foundation affiliated with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and will be managed based on its specific financial and trade laws and regulations in the framework of the laws and regulations of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**Article 3-** Agency's tasks and authorizations are as follows:

- I. Implementing the study, research, designing, engineering and operating issues in the fields of space service technologies, remote sensing and strengthening the communications and space technology networks inside and outside of the country as well as the sovereignty tasks of the Iranian Remote Sensing Center and the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology,
- II. Preparing and regulating the mid and long-term programs for country's space sector in cooperation with related institutions for proposing to the relevant referents,
- III. Study for policy making in designing, manufacturing, launching and using research and applied satellites and providing space services for proposing to the legally cognizable referents,
- IV. Doing research, designing, manufacturing and launch of the commercial, scientific and research satellites, and designing and establishing control center and launch of national satellites in cooperation with related institutions,

**Nota Bene-** The above said issues excluding launch and satellite control center could be implemented by the non-governmental sector in care of the Agency.

- V. Planning to conduct and develop the peaceful uses of outer space, celestial bodies, astronomy and space technology, strengthening the national, regional and international communication networks by the state,

- cooperative and private sectors and monitoring their implementation in the framework of the major policies of the country,
- VI. Study, research, technology development and applied specific education in developing space science and technologies,
  - VII. Studying the requirements and implementing satellite and other space technology projects in the framework of the related laws and regulations,
  - VIII. Contribution to the implementation of the national, regional and international satellite projects in the framework of the major policies of the regime and other related laws and regulations,
  - IX. Implementing the allotted sovereignty tasks through providing space sector signal (including voice, image and data) for the land sector applicants, issuing authorization for the activities in space aiming at integral management of the country's space sector and sustained and coordinated exploitation of space technologies and facilities including satellites, network of private or national satellites (including satellite mobile), direct receiving and transmitting stations, and satellite control in the framework of the related rules and regulations,
  - X. Getting the approved tariffs for offering space services and issuing the authorization for activity in space,
  - XI. Assessing the competence of non-governmental contractors and advisors for implementing space related executive and research issues in different parts of the country in the framework of related laws and regulations,
  - XII. Representing, membership and attending related international and regional societies and unions aiming at protecting national interests in the framework of the regime's major policies and other laws and regulations,
  - XIII. Implementing regional and international cooperation programs in space issues in the framework of the regime's major policies,

- XIV. Management and exploitation of satellite and orbital positions in coordination with responsible bodies and pursuing their international registration for optimum use of space sources,
- XV. Study and planning for securing the space sector needs of the country's whole satellite networks for providing satellite services through the national, regional and international satellites in the framework of the laws and regulations,
- XVI. Preparing and formulating the regulations and statutes related to the tasks included in the article 9 of the Law for Tasks and Authorizations of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology approved in 2003, for proposing to the legal referents for approval,
- XVII. Establishing national archive and centralizing store, classification and updating of space data.

**Nota Bene 1-** The Agency is obliged to apply the highest capacity of the non-governmental sector in the framework of the major policies of the regime for implementing its tasks and affairs.

**Nota Bene 2-** Distinguishing the security competence in the cases of the clauses IX and XI in this article will be the responsibility of the related referents.

**Nota Bene 3-** The Agency is authorized to proceed for establishing space research centers and firms with the endorsement of the Council for Development of Higher Education in the framework of the laws and regulations.

**Nota Bene 4-** Regarding the clause X, the Agency is obliged to act based on the rates approved by the Cabinet and settle the funds to the public revenue account (near the General Treasurer).

**Article 4-** Agency's required credits will be provisioned and secured through the public funds and credits in the country's annual budget and will be expended in the framework of the Agency's specific statutes subject of the article 2 of this Statute and other related laws and regulations.

**Nota Bene-** In coordination of the Planning and Strategic Monitoring Deputyship of the President of the Islamic Republic

of Iran and in the framework of the annual budgets, the Agency is authorized to use the financial allowance and other trust funds of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and its affiliated organizations and firms and other institutions.

**Article 5-** In implementing clause 10 of article 68 of the Law for Management of Country Service approved in 2007, the Agency in coordination of the Management and Human Assets Development Deputyship of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran is authorized to make necessary superior payments with the endorsement of the Cabinet to draw and retain appropriate human resources for the specialized and managerial positions.

**Article 6-** The organizational chart of the Agency after formulating by the Agency and confirmation of the Management and Human Assets Development Deputyship of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran will be effectual.

**Article 6-** The president of the Agency that is the Deputy Minister of Communications and Information Technology will be appointed by the above-mentioned Minister and will hold the highest executive position at the Agency.

**Article 7-** The president of the Agency is responsible for well implementing the affairs, protecting the rights, interests and assets of the Agency, and for managing the Agency will have full right and authorization in the framework of the regulations. He/she will represent the Agency before all legal authorities and real and legal entities with the right to depute the authorization to others, and he/she can delegate on his recognition part of his/her authorization by the official notification to either of his/her deputies, managers or Agency's staff.

The Guardian Council of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran according to letter number 87/30/27483 dated 2 July 2008 passed this Statute.

The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology is noticed of this approval through letter number 62999 T 38571 H on July 15, 2008.