Letter of Intention

For

the China-Brazil Joint Laboratory for Space Weather Between

the National Space Science Center (NSSC)

the National Institute for Space Research (INPE)

The **National Space Science Center** of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), a key institute established by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, in charge of space science satellite missions in China, and appointed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences as counterpart to INPE for the purpose of this agreement (hereinafter referred to as "NSSC")

and

The National Institute for Space Research, a research unit of the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications (MCTIC), whose main goals are fostering scientific research and technological applications and qualifying personnel in the fields of space and atmospheric sciences, space engineering, and space technology and applications (hereinafter referred to as "INPE")

hereinafter referred to individually as "Party" or jointly as "Parties";

Recalling the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on April 16th, 2010 between INPE and CSSAR to establish the general cooperation framework between both Institutions to facilitate the identification of more specific cooperation programs, including but not limited to exchange programs, installation of research equipment from Brazil to China and vice-versa and organization of a joint research program in areas of common interest in Space Sciences and Space Weather;

Recalling also the Letter of Intent signed on March 16th, 2011 between INPE and CSSAR to implement the above mentioned MoU in a timely fashion, where the Parties demonstrated intent to support specific research infrastructure for both the International Meridian Circle Program and the Brazilian Study and Monitoring of Space Weather (EMBRACE);

Having regard to the successful establishment of China-Brazil Joint Laboratory for Space Weather (hereinafter referred to as "Joint Laboratory"), and the Cooperative Agreement between NSSC and INPE for a joint cooperative effort to implement research on common scientific goals and cooperation programs on Space Weather through the establishment of a China-Brazil Joint Research Laboratory at INPE signed on August 6, 2014 and entered into force on the same day;



HAVE AGREED as follows:

- 1. The purpose of this LoI is to establish a mutual understanding between the Parties and agree on general principles related to the follow-up cooperation of the Joint Laboratory, as well as International Meridian Circle Program.
- 2. Both Parties agree that the Joint Laboratory has achieved its preset construction objective, and are satisfied with its preliminary observation results and relevant scientific outcomes;
- 3. Both Parties agreed to continue the cooperation on the Joint Laboratory, and will further discuss to:
- Expand the scope and means of ground-based instruments for space environment observations:
- Extend the collaboration to some potential areas such as Sun-Earth relationship (space weather);
- Carry out cooperation activities including data sharing, joint studies, observation campaign and personnel exchange;
- Increase the worldwide influence of Joint Laboratory through outreach work.
- 4. NSSC and INPE agree to make all the efforts to maintain the Joint-Laboratory office at the EMBRACE's facility operational. The parties shall be responsible for funding the respective activities related to the implementation of this letter. NSSC will search from CAS the operational funding of the Joint Laboratory for next first 5 years.
- 5. INPE intends to actively consider recommending senior scientists into IMCP science committee thus contributing to its scientific objectives and implementation plan.

This LoI is not legally binding and shall not be construed as creating any legally binding rights and obligations to the Parties.

National Institute for Space Research

National Space Science Center

Director

Date: