PREFACE
ISPRS Annals, Volume III, Part B8

P.L.N. Raju, Secretary, ISPRS Technical Commission VIII
North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC), Department of Space, Government of India
Umiam, Shillong, Meghalaya, India

Commission VIII

The Technical Commission VIII, which deals with Remote Sensing (RS) Applications and Policies received the highest number of submissions (435) and with (252) of these having been accepted 24 as full papers to Annals and 228 to Achives; all accepted papers have been assigned 39 sessions during the Prague Congress.

Since the last General Assembly in Melbourne, the RS applications have further matured as prime providers of operational products and services for globally critical areas such as, disaster management, environmental monitoring, climate change, ocean and atmospheric sciences, etc., to name a few. This period also witnessed a multi-fold increase in the number of operating high resolution satellites as well as services of new operational observation constellations over land / ocean from a number of established and new space faring nations. In parallel, floodgates have been opened for accessible EO data by the policy of EC for Sentinel constellation. Submissions covered human applications such as health, humanitarian crises, besides natural resources, environment and infrastructure as well. The wide geographic spread of the submissions has substantiated the utilization and potential of RS technology by the global community, addressing all the terms of reference of the TC VIII. The Commission activities in future must address three recent global developments, namely Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal Agenda 2030, and monitoring and verification of greenhouse gas budgets as envisaged by Paris Agreement during the COP21.

doi:10.5194/isprsannals-III-8-1-2016