

**ALAIN RETIERE****Date of Birth:** June 28, 1961**Nationality:** French**Current Position:** Director of the UNITAR Operational Service Programme on Satellite Applications (UNOSAT)

He received in December 2006 the UN21 Award that was given by the Secretary-General in recognition of his exceptional contribution toward improving efficiency in the United Nations. UNOSAT aims at widening the use of Satellite Imagery and other satellite applications by the humanitarian community and pursue the objective of building capacities in disaster-prone regions of the developing world to reduce vulnerability. UNOSAT is an open service partnership providing 24 hours a day 7 days a week easy access to satellite imagery and geographic information systems to non-for-profit operational humanitarian organizations working throughout the crisis cycle. He leads the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group Task Force on remote sensing and has been together with the UNOOSA, an active promoter of the Charter within the international disaster management community. Recently UNOSAT is diversifying its offer of satellite-based applications services to UN and NGO's humanitarian organizations as well as member-states national organizations, including emergency telecommunications, fleet management and global telemedicine. An agronomist and specialist in tropical ecology, he joined the United Nations in 1992 and carried out more than 90 technical missions in more than 60 different countries, including the most prone to or recovering from conflicts or major natural disasters in Central America, Asia and Pacific, Africa, Central Asia and the Balkans.