

 Permanent
Mission
of Austria

to the United
Nations in Vienna

AUSTRIA, ITEM 15

“Space 2030” Agenda

66th COPUOS (31 May – 9 June 2023)

Ambassador Gabriela SELLNER

Chair,
Excellencies – Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me please report about Austrian activities in support of the **“Space2030” Agenda and respective implementation plan**” adopted by resolution 76/3 of the General Assembly.

As last year, we refer to the numbering of the resolution A/RES/76/3.

§ 24 (b) UNSPIDER: Austria has been one of the founding members of the Programme in 2006. Since then we supported the programme with different activities such as through direct funding agreements with UNOOSA (from 2007 – 2011) covering several workshops on education and training in Africa; delegation of Austrian Experts to UNOOSA and projects directly linked to the UNOOSA work programme (from 2012 – 2019). Since then, in our support for UNSPIDER we wanted to increase synergies between Austrian priorities in development cooperation policy and Austrian space expertise. The result is that in late 2022 the Austrian Development Agency started a dedicated project on “Drought Early Warning in Mozambique via Satellite Soil Moisture Data”. The Technical University of Vienna realizes the three-year project. The local project partner is the Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo. The expected results are improved accuracy of drought monitoring and early warning tools to enhance agricultural practices and tools. This will improve interventions to mitigate the impact of droughts.

§ 24 (i) Space Mission Planning Advisory Group (SMPAG): From 2 – 7 April the 8th IAA Planetary Defence Conference took place at the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the United Nations Vienna International Center. In addition to the traditional technical session topics, there was a discussion based on a fictional, but realistic scenario on identifying and exchanging on national communication procedures for hazards caused by Near Earth Objects. The Head of the Task Force Crisis Management of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Climate Action took part in the Panel “National Security Preparedness Roles in Planetary Defence” explaining the national processes that take effect in the event of an emergency. This was an important link between international considerations and national procedures and there will be follow up activities involving relevant stakeholders.

§ 25 (i) The World Space Forums (WSF) series aims at strengthening partnerships and dialogue among the global community to support the implementation of the “Space2030” Agenda. One of its specific goals is to involve **all relevant space actors on a broad basis**. In **2022**, the Forum discussed “**Sustainability in Space for sustainability on Earth**”. We appreciate to include appropriate messages on the importance of space solutions in the **Declaration to the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development** and to the **Sustainable Development Summit** that will take place from 18 to 19 September 2023. Together with UNOOSA, Austria will organise the **World Space Forum 2023** from **12 – 14 December 2023**. We will discuss the important role space technologies, -data and applications play in **shaping our common future**

In addition, we contribute with the following activities to the objectives of the „Space 2030“Agenda:

Overarching objective 1 (economic benefits), Overarching objective 2 (benefits for everyday challenges) and Overarching objective 3: (access to space for all)

The UN/Austria Symposium is an activity of the Programme of Space Applications of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. Since 2020, we have been focusing on the topic of climate change in a mini-series.

Overarching objective 4: (partnerships and international cooperation).

Austria actively supports the work of the Committees and Subcommittees with statements and technical presentations and active participation in Working and Expert Groups, be it on the **Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities**; on Legal Aspects of **Space Resource Activities**; on **Dark and Quiet Skies** for Science and Society and on the Use of **Nuclear Power Sources** in Outer Space.

In concluding, we draw Member States' awareness to the importance of reporting on the implementation of the „Space 2030“Agenda with a view to the mid-term review in 2025 and the final review of the implementation of the “Space2030” Agenda.

Thank you!