



# General Assembly

Distr.: Limited  
1 February 2024

Original: English

**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space  
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee  
Sixty-first session  
Vienna, 29 January–9 February 2024**

## Draft report

### Addendum

#### IV. Space-system-based disaster management support

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 78/72, the Subcommittee considered agenda item 7, entitled “Space-system-based disaster management support”.
2. The representatives of Argentina, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Thailand and the United Kingdom made statements under agenda item 7. During the general exchange of views, statements relating to the item were also made by representatives of other member States.
3. The Subcommittee heard the following scientific and technical presentations:
  - (a) “Progress in building emergency management satellites and satellite emergency response to major natural disasters in 2023”, by the representative of China;
  - (b) “Latest trends and perspectives: Japan’s contribution to disaster risk reduction in the Asia-Pacific region through Sentinel Asia”, by the representative of Japan;
  - (c) “Multi-purpose aerospace monitoring system and service for the prompt provision of emergency situation data”, by the representative of Kazakhstan;
  - (d) “Philippine space data mobilization for enhancing disaster resilience”, by the representative of the Philippines;
  - (e) “Earth Observatory of Singapore – Remote Sensing Lab’s support for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief”, by the representative of Singapore.
4. The Subcommittee welcomed with appreciation the activities and achievements of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), as contained in the report on activities carried out in 2023 in the framework of UN-SPIDER ([A/AC.105/1310](#)).
5. The Subcommittee noted that in 2023, with the continued support of its network of partners, including the regional support offices, UN-SPIDER had conducted



institutional strengthening missions to South Africa and Tonga and a scoping mission to French Polynesia; provided virtual support to Bolivia (Plurinational State of), El Salvador and Malawi; organized training courses in Chile, Fiji, Germany and Hungary; and organized workshops in Algeria and Germany, a subforum in China and an annual meeting of regional support offices in Austria.

6. The Subcommittee noted with satisfaction that UN-SPIDER had delivered tailored space-based information and resources that had helped to strengthen the capacity of States to effectively respond to disasters triggered by natural hazards.

7. The Subcommittee also noted that space-based support for disaster risk reduction and emergency response was vital for addressing and mitigating the impact of natural disasters, and that space technology played a significant role in the management of natural disasters, enabling national observatories to monitor a variety of natural hazards, including floods, wildfires, typhoons or hurricanes, droughts and landslides.

8. Some delegations expressed the view that space technology contributed to an improved understanding of disaster risks, enabling States to effectively allocate resources to reduce the associated negative impacts and to improve preparedness and response capabilities at the national and local levels.

9. The Subcommittee noted the benefits of initiatives such as the Charter on Cooperation to Achieve the Coordinated Use of Space Facilities in the Event of Natural or Technological Disasters (International Charter on Space and Major Disasters), which enabled the organization of resources and expertise for rapid response to catastrophic events and was an effective mechanism for using space-based information to support disaster management efforts.

10. The Subcommittee also noted the need to continue encouraging international collaboration in order to maximize the resilience of communities.

11. The view was expressed that there was a need to facilitate regional emergency observations outside the scope of the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters and Sentinel Asia, as well as a need to facilitate access to data for Member States in order to support the monitoring and prevention of disasters.

12. Some delegations expressed their satisfaction with the contribution of Sentinel Asia to disaster management efforts in the Asian region.

13. Some delegations highlighted the efforts of their countries to develop new satellite constellations to monitor forest fires, to develop new tools and services to address water-related disasters using satellite data, to improve existing technologies for the thematic processing and analysis of remote sensing data and develop new ones, and to develop ground-based infrastructure for receiving and processing space information.

14. The view was expressed that the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Recovery Observatory allowed for coordinated satellite image acquisitions and synthesis of the information derived therefrom. The delegation expressing that view noted the efforts of UN-SPIDER to raise awareness of the Recovery Observatory at several workshops and training sessions in 2023.

15. The view was expressed that there was a need to enact and implement space policies to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement on climate change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.

16. The Subcommittee noted the financial and staff resources that had been contributed by China and Germany to UN-SPIDER. Such support, including in-kind contributions, efforts to share experiences with other interested countries and the provision of experts, provided by States members of the Committee and by the regional support offices in 2023 for the activities conducted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs through UN-SPIDER, was crucial for States to reduce the risk of disasters.