

Non-paper submitted by Switzerland
on the Bureau of the new Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability
of Outer Space Activities (LTS) – 15 March 2021

With a view to help find consensus at this stage of the discussion, and taking into account the positions expressed lately by the States having nominated candidates, Switzerland wishes to reiterate its proposal for a joint co-chairpersonship, which could be assisted by one vice-chair in the spirit of inclusiveness and for a more effective work. This non-paper provides details in line with recent proposals by other Member States.

1. In accordance with the decision adopted by the Committee on its 62nd session in June 2019, the new Working Group on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities will be guided by the following framework¹:
 - a) Identifying and studying challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and considering possible new guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities;
 - b) Sharing experiences, practices and lessons learned from the voluntary national implementation of the adopted guidelines on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities;
 - c) Raising awareness and building capacity, in particular among emerging space nations and developing countries.
2. Two streams of work are foreseen:
 - a) **Policy and regulatory stream**, which will be responsible for leading the compilation of best practices pertaining to the implementation of the guidelines in policy and national regulatory framework for space activities, and a study of the challenges, and potential new guidelines for consideration.
 - b) **Operational and technical stream**, which will be responsible for leading the compilation of best practices pertaining to the implementation of the guidelines regarding the safety and sustainability of space operations, including relevant aspects of scientific and technical research and development, and a study of the challenges, and potential new guidelines for consideration.
3. International cooperation, raising awareness and building capacity are integral components of this work. These concepts will be carefully considered throughout the discussions of each work stream. **A vice-chair** may provide support in this task.
4. Recognizing the limited resources of delegations, it is **important that work is performed sequentially** with a balanced approach to the division of time for the two work streams.
5. **Each co-chair will lead one of the work streams.** Given the sequential organisation of the work, the discussions will always be led by one co-chair at a time.
6. The Working Group will be **jointly led by the co-chairs with a joint decision-making process.**

¹ §167, A/74/20.