# Non-paper by Switzerland UNCOPUOS 61<sup>st</sup> session LTSSA informal meeting, 26.6.2018

# Proposal for the establishment of a new Working Group on Safety and Transparency in Space Activities

Under the proposed chairmanship of Prof. Dr Thomas Schildknecht (Switzerland)

#### **Proposed structure**

- The Working Group would be affiliated to COPUOS and mandated to also meet during the sessions of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and of the Legal Subcommittee.
- The proposed multi-year work-plan could cover the period 2019-2023.

## **Proposed objectives**

- 1. To identify and address issues relevant the enhancement of the safety, the transparency and the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, and to propose, as appropriate, recommendations and/or non-legally binding guidelines to address the issues identified.
- 2. To identify and address issues associated with information exchange and notification procedures relating to the international cooperation in the monitoring of objects and accidental events in orbit, including the development of requirements for enhanced exchange and notification procedures under the United Nations Register of Objects launched into Outer Space, and to propose cooperation mechanisms to support this objective;
- 3. To encourage capacity building and outreach activities on transparency and confidence-building measures.

## Possible tasks

The working group could, inter alia<sup>1</sup>:

- 1. Address the topics which were discussed in the WG on LTSSA but on which no consensus was reached;
- 2. Examine options for collaborative information-sharing with the aim of ensuring the safety and sustainability of space operations;
- 3. Examine the topics which were identified by the WG on LTSSA as topics for further considerations;
- 4. Identify and address new topics relevant to enhance safety, transparency and sustainability of space activities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The order in the list does not pre-suppose the order of priority.