United Nations A/AC.105/1324*

General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 April 2024

Original: English

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Information furnished in conformity with the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

Note verbale dated 9 April 2024 from the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations (Vienna) addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations (Vienna), in furtherance of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (General Assembly resolution 2222 (XXI), annex), opened for signature on 27 January 1967, has the honour to transmit information regarding activities carried out in outer space (see annex).

The United States recognizes the rapidly growing global interest in robotic and human exploration of space beyond low Earth orbit. The Artemis programme is expected to land the first woman and the first person of colour on the surface of the Moon, together with international and commercial partners, and will facilitate sustainable human exploration of the solar system.

In this context, the United States underscores the importance of compliance with the Outer Space Treaty, as well as the benefits of coordination via multilateral forums, such as the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

In particular, the United States notes the importance of article XI of the Outer Space Treaty, in which States Parties agree to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to the greatest extent feasible and practicable, of the nature, conduct, locations and results of their activities in outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies. The United States has a longstanding practice of sharing the results of our civil space exploration activities for the benefit of all. It is the hope of the United States that such implementation of article XI by all States parties conducting activities in outer space contributes to safe and sustainable space exploration.

Consistent with discussions among signatories of the Artemis Accords on the Principles for Cooperation in the Civil Exploration and Use of the Moon, Mars, Comets, and Asteroids for Peaceful Purposes and its obligations under the Outer Space Treaty, the United States provides the annexed information regarding the launch on 8 January and 15 February 2024 to the Moon of United States scientific

* Reissued for technical reasons on 19 April 2024.

payloads, which were carried on commercial spacecraft under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Commercial Lunar Payload Services project. The annex details basic data parameters related to the United States scientific payloads on these two missions – Astrobotic Peregrine Mission 1 and Intuitive Machines Nova-C 1.

Annex

Information regarding activities carried out in outer space*

Astrobotic Peregrine Mission 1

Mission	Astrobotic Peregrine Mission 1
Reporting State	United States of America
General nature of activities	Commercial mission with a wide variety of objectives, including delivery of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) payloads under the Commercial Lunar Payload Services programme. Science objectives of the NASA payloads included the study of the lunar exosphere, thermal properties and hydrogen abundance of the lunar regolith, magnetic fields and the radiation environment
Launch date	8 January 2024
Landing date	23 February 2024; however, the spacecraft failed to reach the lunar surface
Duration of activities	Planned 190 hours of operations after landing
Landing location(s)	Sinus Viscositatis; Gruithuisen Domes (western rim of the Imbrium Basin, the largest impact crater on the Moon's near side)
Anticipated landing accuracy (metres/kilometres)	Defer to commercial provider
Spacecraft mass at landing	Defer to commercial provider
Item(s) being deployed	NASA and commercial science and technology payloads (payload details are available on the websites below)
Location(s) of activity/activities, if different from landing location(s)	Defer to commercial provider
Information related to scientific aspects or special considerations of activities	Varied – defer to commercial provider for commercial payload activities; NASA science payload activities may be viewed at https://science.nasa.gov/lunar-science/clps-deliveries/to2-astrobotic/
Plans for end of mission disposal	Plan was for lander to remain at landing site
Website for mission details	Commercial provider: www.astrobotic.com/lunar-delivery/manifest/

* The information is reproduced in the form in which it was received.

Intuitive Machines Nova-C 1

Mission	Intuitive Machines Nova-C 1
Reporting State	United States of America
General nature of activities	Commercial mission with NASA science objectives, including measuring radio emissions from the near side of the lunar surface, demonstrating precision vector velocity and altitude detection, measuring the amount of cryogenic propellant in the spacecraft's fuel tank, recording effects of engine plume interactions with the lunar surface, enabling precision laser ranging to determine the distance from an orbiting or landing spacecraft to the Laser Retro-reflector Array (LRA) on the lander and demonstrating autonomous navigation beacons to guide incoming/outgoing vehicles with precision
Launch date	15 February 2024
Landing date	22 February 2024
Duration of activities	Anticipated approximately 7–10 days after landing, but mission operations ceased on 29 February 2024
Landing location(s)	Malapert A
Anticipated landing accuracy (metres/kilometres)	Defer to commercial provider
Spacecraft mass at landing	Defer to commercial provider
Item(s) being deployed	NASA and commercial science and technology payloads (payload details are available on the website below)
Location(s) of activity/activities, if different from landing location(s)	Defer to commercial provider
Information related to scientific aspects or special considerations of activities	Varied – defer to commercial provider for commercial payload activities; NASA science payload activities may be viewed at https://science.nasa.gov/lunar-science/clps-deliveries/to2-im-clps-payloads/
Plans for end of mission disposal	Plan is for lander to remain at landing site
Website for mission details	Commercial provider: www.intuitivemachines.com/im-1