

UNITED NATIONS
INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES (UN-Space)

Fortieth session

14 December 2021, 14:00-17:00 CET (Vienna time)

Format: Virtual/Online, MS Teams. [Click here to join the meeting.](#)

DRAFT ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Update on the “Space2030” agenda.
4. Preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system.
5. Special report by UN-Space on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation.
6. UN-Space publication.
7. Coordination of future plans and programmes of common interest for cooperation and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas.
8. Organization of open session.
9. Any other business.

Annotations*

- 1. Opening of the session.**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda.**
- 3. Update on the “Space2030” agenda.**

The General Assembly, in its resolution 73/6 entitled “Fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: space as a driver of sustainable development” of 26 October 2018, invited the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to develop a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan and to provide the General Assembly with the outcome of its work for consideration by the Assembly.

At its 21st plenary meeting held on 25 October 2021, the General Assembly adopted, without a vote, resolution entitled “The ‘Space2030’ Agenda: space as a driver of sustainable development” ([A/RES/76/3](#)).

At the session, a representative of the Office for Outer Space Affairs will provide the Meeting with updated information on the “Space2030” agenda.

- 4. Preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system.**

The objective of the Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system is to enhance space-related inter-agency cooperation and coordination among United Nations entities and to avoid the duplication of efforts in the use of space applications.

At its thirtieth session held in Geneva on 10-12 March 2010, the United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities agreed that the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system served as a strategic tool for the United Nations to avoid duplication of efforts in the field of space science and technology, and that future reports should highlight efforts of the United Nations system in delivering as one on space-related activities for the development agenda.

At that session, the Meeting agreed that the reports of the Secretary-General should be issued on a biennial basis, starting with the period 2012-2013, and a review of this reporting structure should be made in 2017. The Meeting further agreed that in the year when there was no report of the Secretary-General, a special report on a selected topic should be considered (see item 5 below).

At its thirty-seventh session held in Geneva on 24 August 2017, UN-Space expressed its satisfaction with the existing reporting structure and agreed that reports of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system and special reports of UN-Space should continue to be issued biennially on an alternating basis.

In 2014 and 2016, the focus of the Secretary-General’s reports was on addressing the post-2015 development agenda ([A/AC.105/1063](#)), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ([A/AC.105/1115](#)), respectively. The 2018 report is entitled “Coordination of space-related activities

* The annotations are not part of the agenda to be adopted by UN-Space. The Meeting may choose to focus discussion on selected agenda items of interest to participants.

within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2018–2019 — a United Nations that delivers” ([A/AC.105/1179](#)). The title of the 2020 report is “Coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2020–2021 – megatrends and realization of the Sustainable Development Goals” ([A/AC.105/1230](#)). The report of the Secretary-General, contained in A/AC.105/1230, was before the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its 64th session, held in 2021 ([A/76/20](#), para.274(a)).

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, also at its 64th session, noted that the next report on the coordination of space -related activities within the United Nations system could focus on the use of space technologies to support climate action, mapping existing activities in the United Nations system, the mandates of the respective bodies, and identifying possible future synergies and avoiding duplication, and that the Office for Outer Space Affairs would bring this to the attention of UN-Space for the development of such a report ([A/76/20](#), para.277).

Participants are invited to discuss and agree on the focus of the upcoming report to be prepared in 2022.

5. Special report by UN-Space on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation.

At its fortieth session, in 2003, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space endorsed the proposal to strengthen inter-agency cooperation in the use of outer space within the United Nations system, as recommended by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities at its twenty-third session. Based on a recommendation of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (A/AC.105/791 and Corr.1, para. 30), the Subcommittee invited United Nations entities to submit annual reports on specific themes (A/AC.105/804, paras. 93-95).

In response to that invitation, the Inter-Agency Meeting prepared in 2005 its first special report entitled “New and emerging technologies, applications and initiatives for space-related inter-agency cooperation” ([A/AC.105/843](#)).

At its 30th session in 2010, the Inter-Agency Meeting decided that special reports on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation shall be prepared on a biennial basis.

The subsequent special reports focused on themes: “Space benefits for Africa: contribution of the United Nations system” ([A/AC.105/941](#)) in 2009; “Use of space technology within the United Nations system to address climate change issues” ([A/AC.105/991](#)) in 2011; “Space for agriculture development and food security” ([A/AC.105/1042](#)) in 2013, “Space for global health” ([A/AC.105/1091](#)) in 2015; “Role of United Nations entities in supporting Member States in the implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities” ([A/AC.105/1116](#)) in 2016, “Space Weather” ([A/AC.105/1146](#)) in 2017, and “Partnerships” ([A/AC.105/1200](#)).

At its thirty-eighth session held on 29 October 2018 in New York, UN-Space agreed that its future special report to be issued after 2020 could focus on the use of space science, technology and applications for water ([A/AC.105/1209](#), para. 43).

Participants are invited to discuss and agree on the focus and issuance date of the upcoming special report.

6. UN-Space publication

Publications produced by UN-Space include: Space Solutions for the World's Problems: How the United Nations family uses space technology for achieving development goals ([ST/SPACE/33](#)); [Space and climate change](#); and Space for Agriculture Development and Food Security ([ST/SPACE/69](#)).

At its thirty-eighth session held on 29 October 2018 in New York, UN-Space agreed that it could produce, in 2020, a publication on the use of space technology within the United Nations system ([A/AC.105/1209](#), para. 43). However, the regular cycle of annual sessions of UN-Space was disrupted in 2020 owing to the global coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which had unprecedented and multifaceted effects on all activities across the United Nations system.

Participants are invited to discuss and agree on the focus and issuance date of the upcoming publication.

7. Coordination of future plans and programmes of common interest for cooperation and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas.

Participants will be invited to report on recent developments in space-related activities of their entities. Special consideration shall be given to activities that may be of interest to other United Nations entities participating in the framework of UN-Space, such as opportunities for cooperation or needs for coordination. To the extent possible presentations or statements should be limited to a maximum of ten minutes.

8. Organization of open session.

A wide range of themes addressed by UN-Space under its open informal sessions include: education and training in space-related areas: challenges and opportunities in the UN system (2004); space technology for disaster management: opportunities within the United Nations system (2005); space technology for sustainable development and disaster management: opportunities within the United Nations system (2006); the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development in the United Nations system (2007); public-private partnerships and innovative funding approaches in the United Nations system to promote the use of space technology and its applications (2008); space benefits for Africa: contribution of the United Nations (2009); space technology for emergency communications (2010); space and climate change (2011); space for agriculture and food security (2012); space and disaster risk reduction: planning for resilient human settlements (2013); engaging space tools for development on Earth — contribution of space technology and applications to the post-2015 development agenda (2014); space-based information for development (2015); transformative potential of space technology for development: approaches and opportunities in the United Nations system (2017); United Nations: Reinforcing Synergies For UNISPACE+50 and beyond (2018); and an integral part of the United Nations/Austria World Space Forum entitled 'Access to Space4All'.

Participants will be invited to discuss theme/dates/venue of the upcoming open session.

9. Any other business.

At its thirty-eighth session held on 29 October 2018 in New York, UN-Space agreed to hold its fortieth session in Bangkok in 2020, in cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ([A/AC.105/1209](#), para. 49). Owing to the global coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the organization of such session in 2020 was not possible.

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its 64th session, held in 2021, noted that the fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific was scheduled to be held in October 2022, in Bali, Indonesia ([A/76/20](#), para.280).

Participants are invited to discuss and agree on the date and venue of the 41st session of UN-Space. Participants may wish to raise and discuss any other matters, as appropriate.