

2 June 2017

English only

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**

Vienna, 7-16 June 2017

Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

**Guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space
activities****Proposal by the Chair of the Working Group on the Long-term
Sustainability of Outer Space Activities**

1. The guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities in Part B of document [A/AC.105/L.308](#) will form the basis of Working Group discussions during the Fourth Intersessional Meeting and discussions and negotiations during the sixtieth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
2. In response to requests made at the fifty-fourth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the Chair of the Working Group proposes that the Working Group discuss the preamble and guidelines in Part B of [A/AC.105/L.308](#) in the following order:

**During the 4th Intersessional Meeting and first week of the sixtieth session of the
Committee**

- Preambular text;
- Guideline 11: Provide updated contact information and share information on space objects and orbital events;
- Guideline 14: Perform conjunction assessment during all orbital phases of controlled flight;
- Guideline 15: Develop practical approaches for pre-launch assessment of possible conjunctions of newly launched space objects with space objects already present in near-Earth space;
- Guideline 18: Ensure the safety and security of terrestrial infrastructure that supports the operation of orbital systems and respect the security of foreign space-related terrestrial and information infrastructures;
- Guideline 19: Ensure the safety and security of terrestrial infrastructure that supports the operation of orbital systems;

* [A/AC.105/L.307](#).



- Guideline 20: Develop and implement criteria and procedures for the preparation and conduct of space activities aimed at the active removal of space objects from orbit;
- Guideline 21: Establish procedures and requirements for the safe conduct of operations resulting in the destruction of in-orbit space objects;
- Guideline 22: Develop criteria and procedures for the active removal of space objects and for the intentional destruction of space objects, specifically as applied to non-registered objects;
- Guideline 30: Address approaches to the design and operation of small-size space objects;
- Guideline 31: [Comply with procedures for mitigating] [Mitigate] risks associated with the uncontrolled re-entry of space objects; and
- Guideline 32: Observe measures of precaution when using sources of laser beams passing through outer space.

During the second week of the sixtieth session of the Committee

- Guideline 6: Enhance the practice of registering space objects;
- Guideline 7: Provide, in national legal and/or policy frameworks, for a commitment to conducting space activities solely for peaceful purposes;
- Guideline 8: Implement operational and technological measures of self-restraint to forestall adverse developments in outer space;
- Guideline 9: Implement policy aimed at precluding interference with the operation of foreign space objects through unauthorized access to their on-board hardware and software;
- Guideline 10: Refrain from intentional modifications of the natural space environment;
- Guideline 23: Promote and facilitate international cooperation in support of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities; and
- Guideline 24: Share experience related to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and develop new procedures, as appropriate, for information exchange.

3. The Chair proposes that the Working Group keep to this order when considering the guidelines to assist all delegations, and in particular those delegations that are not native English speakers, in being better prepared for discussions.

4. Given the large amount of work before the Working Group and the limited amount of remaining working time within the extended workplan (essentially two in-person working weeks in June 2017, one in-person working week in the September/October time frame of 2017, and the two in-person working weeks in January/February 2018), the Chair proposes that the Working Group aim to complete its work on the text of at least eleven guidelines in Part B of [A/AC.105/L.308](#) during the June 2017 period. Work on the remaining seven guidelines in Part B and the preambular text should then be completed by no later than the conclusion of the Fifth Intersessional Meeting, to be held in the September/October time frame of 2017, for consideration of the Working Group at the fifty-fifth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in 2018. According to its extended workplan ([A/71/20](#), para. 137), during 2017 the Working Group will also need to agree on the manner in which the results of its work will be referred to the General Assembly. This will leave the Implementation, review and updating of the guidelines; the harmonization of the compendium; the text of the document through which the results of the Working Group are to be referred to the General Assembly; and the report of the Working Group to be completed by the end

of the fifty-fifth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in 2018. Following such a plan will allow all Working Group texts to be presented to the Committee at its sixty-first session in 2018.

5. The Chair hopes delegations will agree to work within this structure, while also retaining enough flexibility to allow the Working Group to make the best use of time and achieve additional demonstrable progress, as possible, at each meeting.
