



# General Assembly

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**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space  
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee  
Fifty-fourth session  
Vienna, 30 January-10 February 2017**

## Draft report

### I. Introduction

1. The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space held its fifty-fourth session at the United Nations Office at Vienna from 30 January to 10 February 2017, under the chairmanship of Chiaki Mukai (Japan).

2. The Subcommittee held [20] meetings.

#### A. Attendance

3. Representatives of the following 73 States members of the Committee attended the session: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

4. At its 855th and 860th meetings, the Subcommittee decided to invite, at their request, observers for Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Malta, Myanmar, Namibia, Norway and Paraguay to attend the session and to address it, as appropriate, on the understanding that it would be without prejudice to further requests of that nature and that doing so would not involve any decision of the Committee concerning status.

5. At its 855th meeting, the Subcommittee decided to invite, at its request, the observer for the European Union to attend the session, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 65/276, entitled "Participation of the European Union in the work of the United Nations", and to address it, as appropriate, on the understanding that it



would be without prejudice to further requests of that nature and that doing so would not involve any decision of the Committee concerning status.

6. At the same meeting, the Subcommittee decided to invite, at its request, the observer for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta to attend the session and to address it, as appropriate, on the understanding that it would be without prejudice to further requests of that nature and that doing so would not involve any decision of the Committee concerning status.

7. Observers for the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) attended the session.

8. The session was attended by observers for the following intergovernmental organizations with permanent observer status with the Committee: Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere (ESO), European Space Agency (ESA), European Telecommunications Satellite Organization (EUTELSAT-IGO), International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO), Inter-Islamic Network on Space Sciences and Technology (ISNET) and International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO).

9. The session was attended by observers for the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group (SMPAG) and the International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN), in accordance with the agreement of the Subcommittee at its fifty-third session ([A/AC.105/1109](#), para. 182).

10. At its 855th meeting, the Subcommittee decided to invite, at their request, the observers for the African Union Commission and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), and to address it, as appropriate, on the understanding that it would be without prejudice to further requests of that nature and that doing so would not involve any decision of the Committee concerning status.

11. The session was attended by observers for the following non-governmental organizations having permanent observer status with the Committee: African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE), Association of Space Explorers (ASE), Regional Centre for Remote Sensing of the North African States (CRETEAN), Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), EURISY, European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety (IAASS), International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS), International Astronautical Federation (IAF), International Astronomical Union (IAU), International Space University (ISU), National Space Society (NSS), Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water (PSIPW), Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP), Secure World Foundation (SWF), Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) and World Space Week Association (WSWA).

12. At its 855th and 860th meetings, the Subcommittee decided to invite, at their request, the observers for Women in Aerospace Europe, the European Science Foundation and Space Trust, to attend the session and to address it, as appropriate, on the understanding that it would be without prejudice to further requests of that nature and that doing so would not involve any decision of the Committee concerning status.

13. The Subcommittee took note of the application by the European Science Foundation, represented by the European Space Sciences Committee, for permanent observer status with the Committee ([A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.3](#)).

14. A list of the representatives of States, United Nations entities and other international organizations attending the session is contained in [A/AC.105/C.1/2017/INF/...](#).

## **B. Adoption of the agenda**

15. At its 855th meeting, on 30 January, the Subcommittee adopted the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Statement by the Chair.
3. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities.
4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications.
5. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development.
6. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment.
7. Space debris.
8. Space-system-based disaster management support.
9. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems.
10. Space weather.
11. Near-Earth objects.
12. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space.
13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities.
14. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.
15. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
16. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

## **C. General statements**

16. [*Contained in A/AC.105/C.1/L.356/Add.2*]

## **D. National reports**

17. The Subcommittee took note with appreciation of the reports submitted by Member States ([A/AC.105/1133](#) and Add.1 and 2 and conference room papers [A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.4](#), [A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.10](#), [A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.11](#) and [A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.12](#)) for its consideration under agenda item 3, "General

exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities”. The Subcommittee recommended that the Secretariat continue to invite Member States to submit annual reports on their space activities.

### **E. Symposium**

18. In accordance with the agreement reached by the Subcommittee at its forty-fourth session, in 2007 (A/AC.105/890, annex I, para. 24), and at its fifty-second session, in 2015 (A/AC.105/1109, para. 263), a symposium organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs on the topic “What is at stake in space in 2017 and 2018” was held on 8 February 2017.

19. The symposium, which was organized in the form of panel discussions, was opened with a welcoming statement by Jean-Yves Le Gall, President of IAF, with a keynote address by Sandra Magnus, Executive Director of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). Panel 1, entitled “Views on space—why we go”, consisted of panellists Sandra Magnus of AIAA; Sergey Krikalev, Executive Director for Piloted Spaceflights, ROSCOSMOS; Jan Woerner, Director General of ESA; Saka Tsuneta, Vice-President of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA); M. Annadurai, Director of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Satellite Centre; Simonetta Di Pippo, Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs; and Yu Qi, Vice-Director General of System Engineering Department, China National Space Administration (CNSA). Panel 2, entitled “International benefits from space”, consisted of panellists Roberto Battiston, President of the Italian Space Agency; Doan Ha Thang, Director of the Viet Nam Space Committee office; Francisco Javier Mendieta, Director General of the Mexican Space Agency; Mino Rathnasabathy, Executive Director of SGAC; Khaled Al Hashmi, Director of Space Missions, UAE Space Agency of the United Arab Emirates; Itumeleng Makoloi, Director of Space Missions, South African National Space Agency; Avi Blasberger, Director General of the Israel Space Agency; and Li Hongbo of the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC).

### **F. Adoption of the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**

20. After considering the items before it, the Subcommittee, at its [...] meeting, on [...] February 2017, adopted its report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, containing its views and recommendations, as set out in the paragraphs below.

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