



---

**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space  
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee  
Fifty-fourth session  
Vienna, 30 January-10 February 2017****Draft report of the Working Group on the Long-term  
Sustainability of Outer Space Activities**

1. In accordance with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 71/90, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fifty-fourth session, reconvened its Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities.
2. The Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities held meetings from 30 January to 9 February 2017 under the chairmanship of Peter Martinez (South Africa).
3. In accordance with the workplan extended by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its fifty-ninth session ([A/71/20](#), para. 137), the Working Group had before it the following:
  - (a) Note by the Secretariat entitled “Guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities” ([A/AC.105/C.1/L.354/Rev.1](#));
  - (b) Working paper by the Chair of the Working Group entitled “Outline for the report of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities” [A/AC.105/C.1/L.357](#));
  - (c) Working paper by the Russian Federation entitled “Further ideas on a set of goals for achieving the Vienna Consensus on Space Security and the need for thorough reflection on the modalities of addressing the complex issues associated with space traffic management and the justifiability of the high expectations of early decisions in this area” ([A/AC.105/C.1/L.361](#));
  - (d) Conference room paper by the Chair of the Working Group entitled “Proposals for the Guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities” ([A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.13](#));
  - (e) Conference room paper by the United Kingdom entitled “The United Kingdom’s implementation of the first set of guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities” ([A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.21](#));
  - (f) Conference room paper by France entitled “General presentation of French activities and views for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in



relation with the implementation of the first set of guidelines (A/71/20, annex)” (A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.26);

(g) Conference room paper by the Russian Federation entitled “Considerations aimed at facilitating a broader systemized understanding of the objective dimensions of issues and the functional dimensions of solutions related to sharing information on the situation in outer space in the context of deciding on the establishment of a working group on enhanced information exchange on space objects and events” (A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.27); and

(h) Conference room paper by the Chair of the Working Group entitled “Guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities” (A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.29).

4. The Working Group recalled that its third intersessional meeting had been held in Vienna from 19 to 23 September 2016 and noted that it had been a constructive meeting.

5. The Working Group thanked the Chair for his efforts to propose streamlined texts, as requested by delegations at the third intersessional meeting of the Working Group, and as contained in A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.13. The Working Group agreed that some of the texts he had proposed could form the basis for future discussions.

6. The Working Group noted that, in addition to the meetings the Working Group had held during the present session of the Subcommittee, during which it had had the benefit of interpretation services, the Chair and interested delegations had also held extensive informal consultations on the margins of the session to advance work on: some of the draft guidelines; the preambular text; a section on implementation, updating and reviewing the guidelines; and the report of the Working Group.

7. The Working Group noted that it had not had sufficient time at the present session to discuss the preambular text in detail. The Working Group also noted, however, that cross-cutting issues pertaining to all guidelines could be addressed in the preambular text.

8. The Working Group noted that the text of the following draft guidelines had been discussed during the present session and that proposed edits to those draft guidelines were reflected in A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.29:

(a) Guideline 6. Enhance the practice of registering space objects;

(b) Guideline 11. Provide updated contact information and share information on space objects and orbital events;

(c) Guideline 14. Perform conjunction assessment during all orbital phases of controlled flight;

(d) 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;

(e) Guideline 21. Establish procedures and requirements for the safe conduct of operations resulting in the destruction of in-orbit space objects;

(f) Guideline 24. Share experience related to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and develop new procedures, as appropriate, for information exchange;

(g) Guideline 30. Address approaches to the design and operation of small-size space objects;

(h) Guideline 32. Observe measures of precaution when using sources of laser beams passing through outer space.

9. The Working Group agreed that [A/AC.105/C.1/2017/CRP.29](#) would be used as the basis for producing the next official version of the guidelines, to be translated into all official languages of the United Nations.

10. The Working Group agreed that it would continue to work intersessionally, using electronic and other means as appropriate. In that connection, the Working Group agreed to hold two intersessional meetings in Vienna in 2017: the first directly preceding the sixtieth session of the Committee, in June 2017, and the second in either September or October 2017.

11. The Working Group agreed that the Chair of the Working Group would consult with the Chair of the Committee and with the Secretariat regarding the scheduling of the sixtieth session of the Committee so as to give the Working Group the opportunity to meet during that session and benefit from interpretation services.

12. On 9 February 2017, the Working Group considered and adopted the present report.

---