



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
14 June 2019

Original: English

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**
Sixty-second session
Vienna, 12–21 June 2019

Draft report

Chapter I

Introduction

1. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space held its sixty-second session in Vienna from 12 to 21 June 2019. The officers of the Committee were as follows:

<i>Chair</i>	André João Rypl (Brazil)
<i>First Vice-Chair</i>	Thomas Djamaluddin (Indonesia)
<i>Second Vice-Chair/Rapporteur</i>	Keren Shahar (Israel)

A. Meetings of subsidiary bodies

2. The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space held its fifty-sixth session in Vienna from 11 to 22 February 2019, under the chairmanship of Pontsho Maruping (South Africa). The report of the Subcommittee was before the Committee ([A/AC.105/1202](#)).

3. The Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space held its fifty-eighth session in Vienna from 1 to 12 April 2019, under the chairmanship of Andrzej Misztal (Poland). The report of the Subcommittee was before the Committee ([A/AC.105/1203](#)).

B. Adoption of the agenda

4. At its opening meeting, the Committee adopted the following agenda:
1. Opening of the session.
 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 3. Statement by the Chair.
 4. General exchange of views.
 5. Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes.



6. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its fifty-sixth session.
7. Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its fifty-eighth session.
8. Space and sustainable development.
9. Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status.
10. Space and water.
11. Space and climate change.
12. Use of space technology in the United Nations system.
13. Future role of the Committee.
14. Space exploration and innovation.
15. “Space2030” agenda.
16. Other matters.
17. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

C. Membership

5. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 1472 A (XIV), 1721 E (XVI), 3182 (XXVIII), [32/196 B](#), [35/16](#), [49/33](#), [56/51](#), [57/116](#), [59/116](#), [62/217](#), [65/97](#), [66/71](#), [68/75](#), [69/85](#), [71/90](#) and [72/77](#) and decisions [45/315](#), 67/412, 67/528 and 70/518, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was composed of the following 92 States: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, 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.

D. Attendance

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

7. The session was attended by the observer for the European Union as permanent observer of the Committee in accordance with General Assembly resolution [65/276](#).

8. Observers for the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, the International Telecommunication Union, the World Health Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency attended the session.

9. 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 Southern Observatory (ESO), European Space Agency (ESA), European Telecommunications Satellite Organization (EUTELSAT-IGO) and International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO).

10. The session was also attended by observers for the following non-governmental organizations with permanent observer status with the Committee: Eurisy, European Space Policy Institute (ESPI), For All Moonkind, International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety (IAASS), International Astronautical Federation (IAF), International Institute of Space Law (IISL), International Space University (ISU), Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water (PSIPW), Secure World Foundation (SWF), Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), University Space Engineering Consortium-Global (UNISEC-Global) and World Space Week Association (WSWA).

11. A list of representatives of States members of the Committee, States not members of the Committee, United Nations entities and other organizations attending the session is contained in A/AC.105/2019/INF/[...].

E. General statements

12. Statements were made by representatives of the following States members of the Committee during the general exchange of views: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, El Salvador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Statements were also made by the representative of Nigeria on behalf of the Group of African States and by the representative of Egypt on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. The representative of Chile made a statement on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). The observer for the European Union made a statement. The observers for the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat and the World Meteorological Organization also made statements. Further statements were made by the observers for APSCO, Eurisy, EUTELSAT-IGO, For All Moonkind, IAA, IAF, the International Organization of Space Communications (Intersputnik), the National Space Society (NSS), SGAC, UNISEC-Global and WSWA.

13. At the opening of the session, the delegation of the United States held a commemorative event in the form of a panel discussion to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission to the Moon, on the theme “The legacy of the Apollo 11 mission: the future of space exploration”. The panel discussion included Jackie Wolcott (Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations (Vienna)), Scott Pace (Executive Secretary, National Space Council), Kenneth Bowersox (National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Deputy Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations and former Space Shuttle commander), Jon Harrison (Senior Adviser, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, United States Department of

State), Daniel Dumbacher (Executive Director, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics) and Simonetta Di Pippo (Director, Office for Outer Space Affairs). The questions and answers session was moderated by Kenneth Hodgkins (Director, Office of Space and Advanced Technology, United States Department of State).

14. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the delegation of the United States for organizing and holding the panel discussion for the benefit of member States and permanent observers of the Committee. Further, the Committee congratulated the United States on the fiftieth anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission, which had placed humans on the surface of the Moon for the first time, marked a new phase in space exploration and inspired humanity for new space endeavours.

15. At the 754th meeting, on 12 June, the Chair delivered a statement highlighting the growth in the membership of the Committee and in the number of its permanent observers as evidence that the international community attached increasing importance to cooperation in outer space affairs, as well as to the work of the Committee and its subcommittees. He stressed the importance of the promotion and further enhancement of the role of the Committee as a forum for fostering dialogue and cooperation among States members of the Committee and organizations with permanent observer status and for strengthening partnerships among States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and private sector entities. He further underlined that the Committee continued to be the intergovernmental body under the auspices of the United Nations uniquely positioned to deliver solutions for the emerging challenges in outer space activities and that it was important for the member States to join forces with the aim of aligning the Committee's role with the evolving needs by advancing the development of a new "Space2030" agenda with the objective of maximizing the benefits of space activities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries.

16. At the same meeting, the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs made a statement in which she reviewed the work carried out by the Office during the past year, including outreach activities and cooperation and coordination with United Nations entities, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as representatives of the private sector. She also highlighted the current financial status of the Office and stressed the importance of availability of financial and other resources for the successful implementation of the programme of work of the Office. Further, the Director of the Office stressed the importance of innovation for expanding, through cooperation and partnerships, space exploration and the use of outer space for peaceful purposes. In that context, she provided a comprehensive account of the Office's approach to capacity-building, which was holistic, modern and strategic and was aimed at making space activities as inclusive as possible while ensuring that the benefits of space were made available to everyone and everywhere, such as through the Office's existing "Access to Space for All" initiative or the emerging programme entitled "Space law for new space actors: fostering responsible national space activities". The Director also outlined the substantial cooperative projects, programmes and partnerships of the Office that had been established since the last session of the Committee.

17. On behalf of the United Nations, the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs expressed gratitude to China, the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and MAXAR Technologies for their donations to the Office's permanent exhibition at the United Nations Office at Vienna.

18. The Committee welcomed the publication by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the *Annual Report 2018*, which contained a comprehensive account of the Office's activities, cooperation and partnership programmes, achievements in 2018 and plans for the future.

19. At the 764th meeting, on 19 June, the Committee was addressed by Marcos Cesar Pontes, Minister of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications of Brazil, who in 2006 had been the first astronaut from Brazil to go to outer space.

20. The Committee heard the following presentations:

(a) “Commercial space debris removal service for the long-term sustainability of space”, by the representative of Japan;

(b) “Centre of Excellence of Sustainable Space Research at the University of Helsinki”, by the representative of Finland;

(c) “IAASS, 15 years of achievements”, by the observer for IAASS;

(d) “Inspiring stars: astronomy for inclusion”, by the observer for IAU;

(e) “Recent Indian space missions: update as of June 2019”, by the representative of India;

(f) “UNNATI: first batch feedback and second batch announcement”, by the representative of India;

(g) “United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs *Annual Report 2018*”, by the representative of the Office for Outer Space Affairs;

(h) “The Copernicus Academy: space hub for knowledge exchange, innovation and outreach”, by the representative of Austria;

(i) “Open-design CubeSats for earthquake prediction and tsunami early-warning and their university-originated satellite construction observation”, by the observer for UNISEC-Global;

(j) “UNISEC-Global Challenge: for sustainable university space activities”, by the observer for UNISEC-Global;

(k) “A handbook for the post-mission disposal of satellites less than 100 kg”, by the observer for UNISEC-Global;

(l) “SEOSat/Ingenio: Spanish National Earth Observation Satellite”, by the representative of Spain;

(m) “Recent satellite mission SAOCOM”, by the representative of Argentina;

(n) “Update on the Indian Space Research Organisation international cooperation: joint missions, payloads, data-sharing and partnerships with non-spacefaring nations”, by the representative of India.

21. The Committee welcomed the increase in membership of the Committee and the growing number of observers, which was an indication of the importance of the Committee for the broader space community, and noted in that regard that Cyprus, Ethiopia, Finland, Mauritius and Paraguay had become the latest members of the Committee, bringing its membership to 92 States, and that the European Union, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), CANEUS International and For All Moonkind were the latest observers.

22. The Committee agreed that it, together with its subcommittees and with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, remained the unique international forum tasked with promoting international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful use of outer space and which offered an appropriate environment to discuss matters that had a great impact on the development of States for the betterment of humankind.

23. Some delegations expressed the view that it was important for member States to develop an agenda that could guide the work of the Committee and its subcommittees with a broad and long-term vision that had as its main axis the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that therefore the role and activities of the Committee and its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs should be strengthened and their working methods should be optimized.

24. Some delegations expressed the view that the international community should make further efforts and explore all possible ways and means of taking advantage of the Committee and its subcommittees in order to deliver the common objectives of all nations on space-related issues.
25. The Committee recalled the success of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50), which had served to stress the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes. The Committee further recalled that UNISPACE+50 had been effective in raising awareness of the beneficial impact of space science and technology on sustainable development and reaffirmed that the quality of life on Earth was becoming increasingly dependent on activities carried out in outer space.
26. The Committee welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly of 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 for sustainable development”.
27. The Committee agreed that the work relating to the “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan would help in the mobilization of space activities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals and the targets contained therein, as well as the Paris Agreement on climate change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.
28. Some delegations expressed the view that a continuous dialogue in a multilateral forum such as the Committee provided the best possibilities for fruitful and effective international cooperation, coordination and information-sharing, which were necessary for ensuring the peaceful use and exploration of outer space.
29. Some delegations expressed the view that developing countries were increasingly engaged in space activities and actively participating in the discussions of the Committee, and while some countries had reached important milestones in space activities, other countries were only starting to develop their own space programmes and policies. That situation heightened recognition in developing countries of the potential, importance and impact of space activities, and in that connection, it was imperative to intensify the efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived from outer space activities, with a view to promoting the contribution of peaceful uses of outer space to socioeconomic development. Further, in line with the enhancement of international cooperation in outer space activities, it was vital to promote the broader participation of developing countries through active assistance from advanced spacefaring nations and the Office of Outer Space Affairs. Therefore, capacity-building and technical assistance were key factors for expanding the abilities of those working in the field, thereby enabling them to gain expertise and knowledge from more advanced spacefaring nations.
30. Some delegations reiterated their firm conviction that the use and exploration of outer space should be carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes, with a view to realizing a shared vision for the future, for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and in conformity with applicable international law.
31. Some delegations expressed the view that the most important principles that should govern the activities of States in outer space continued to be universal and equal access to outer space for all countries without discrimination, regardless of their level of scientific, technical and economic development, as well as the equitable and rational use of outer space for the benefit and in the interests of all humankind; the principle of non-appropriation of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, by any means; and international cooperation in the development of space activities, especially those referred to in the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries.

32. Some delegations expressed the view that international cooperation in the peaceful uses and exploration of outer space continued to be in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of development, without discrimination of any kind and with due regard to the principle of equality.

33. The view was expressed that the attempt by some States to promote their national vision and norms as international standards was a matter of concern, as such action could lead to conflicts among participants of space activities and negatively affected the entire system of safety and security in outer space.

34. The view was expressed that the development of science and technology had brought humanity into the era of the commercial utilization of space resources, and that was linked to the risk of an intensification of the global competition for resources and could threaten international peace and security. In that connection, the Committee should engage in a concrete and objective discussion, to be based on the principles and norms of the Outer Space Treaty and aimed at the creation of an international mechanism for control over the utilization of space resources, which could take the form of a legally binding international agreement or a system of agreements. Such agreement would establish a reliable basis for national regulation and a conflict-free conduct of relevant activities. Further, strict compliance with the prohibition of national appropriation of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, as set out in the Outer Space Treaty, would guarantee that outer space would be free from conflicts related to territorial claims.

35. The view was expressed that the development of an international non-legally binding instrument covering the security, safety and sustainability of outer space activities would make it possible to set globally shared norms of responsible behaviour and related transparency and confidence-building measures, including a political commitment not to intentionally destroy space objects and to prevent any further generation of debris.

36. The Committee expressed its appreciation to Austria, China, the United States and IAU for organizing exhibitions during the current session of the Committee.

37. The Committee also expressed its appreciation for the organization of the following events during the session:

(a) A side event entitled “Announcement of the selected experiment projects to be executed on board the China space station for the first cycle”, co-organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the China Manned Space Agency;

(b) A lunchtime event entitled “Space solutions for the Pacific: assisting Pacific Island countries in developing capacity to access space-based solutions”, co-organized by New Zealand and the Office for Outer Space Affairs;

(c) A lunchtime event entitled “Achieving the impossible”, organized by the United Arab Emirates;

(d) A reception event entitled “IAASS anniversary and 15 years of advancement of space safety”, organized by IAASS;

(e) A side event entitled “Access to space for all: the Avio contribution to opening up space”, co-organized by Italy, the Office for Outer Space Affairs and Avio;

(f) A side event entitled “Inspiring stars: IAU inclusive world exhibition”, organized by IAU;

(g) A reception event entitled “Reception for an information exchange of ideas on space debris issues”, organized by Japan;

(h) A panel discussion entitled “Humans first”, organized by For All Moonkind;

(i) A panel discussion entitled “The interregional space policy dialogue between Asia-Pacific and Europe: innovation and partnerships for enhancing space

capabilities”, co-organized by the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum and ESPI, supported by Japan;

(j) A side event entitled “Space for youth”, organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in collaboration with SGAC;

(k) A lunchtime event on space debris, co-organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs and ESA;

(l) A side event entitled “Space for women/women in space”, co-organized by the United States and the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

F. Adoption of the report of the Committee

38. After considering the various items before it, the Committee, at its [...] meeting, on [...] June 2019, adopted its report to the General Assembly containing the recommendations and decisions set out below.
