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**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**
Legal Subcommittee
Sixty-first session
Vienna, 28 March–8 April 2022

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of the Chair.
3. Statement by the Chair.
4. General exchange of views.
5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law.
6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space.
7. Matters relating to:
 - (a) The definition and delimitation of outer space;
 - (b) The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.
8. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.
9. Capacity-building in space law.
10. Future role and method of work of the Committee.
11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
12. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space.
13. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management.
14. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities.



15. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.
16. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-second session.
17. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Annotations¹

2. Election of the Chair

In paragraph 41 of its resolution [76/76](#), adopted on 9 December 2021, the General Assembly urged African States to nominate their candidate for the office of Chair of the Legal Subcommittee for the period 2022–2023.

5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law ([A/AC.105/C.2/118](#)).

6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space

In its resolution [76/76](#), the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its sixty-first session, should reconvene its Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space.

The Subcommittee will have before it for information a document entitled “Bringing the benefits of space to all countries: a guidance document on the legal framework for space activities” ([A/AC.105/C.2/117](#)).

7. Matters relating to:

- (a) **The definition and delimitation of outer space**
- (b) **The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union**

In 2021, the Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space agreed that it would be reconvened only every second year, which meant that it would not be reconvened at the sixty-first session of the Subcommittee, in 2022, but at the sixty-second session of the Subcommittee, in 2023, and on a biennial basis thereafter ([A/AC.105/1243](#), annex II, para. 6).

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing information received from States members of the Committee on national legislation and practice relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space ([A/AC.105/865/Add.27](#)), a note by the Secretariat containing replies from States Members of the United Nations and permanent observers of the Committee to questions on suborbital flights for scientific missions and/or for human transportation ([A/AC.105/1039/Add.17](#)), a note by the Secretariat containing views of States members and permanent observers of the Committee on the definition and delimitation of outer space ([A/AC.105/1112/Add.11](#)) and a note by the Secretariat containing information from Member States and permanent observers of the Committee relating to any practical case known to them that would warrant the definition and delimitation of outer space ([A/AC.105/1226/Add.2](#)).

¹ The annotations are not part of the agenda to be adopted by the Subcommittee.

8. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space

The Subcommittee will continue to consider the item on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space ([A/76/20](#), para. 223).

9. Capacity-building in space law

The Subcommittee will continue to consider the item on capacity-building in space law ([A/76/20](#), para. 223).

10. Future role and method of work of the Committee

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its sixty-second session, agreed that a regular item entitled “Future role and methods of work of the Committee” was to be introduced on the agendas of both the Legal Subcommittee and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to allow for discussion of cross-cutting issues ([A/74/20](#), para. 321 (h)).

The Subcommittee will continue to consider the item on the future role and method of work of the Committee ([A/76/20](#), para. 223).

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the governance and method of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies ([A/AC.105/C.1/L.384](#)), which was also made available to the Committee and its Subcommittees during their sessions in 2021.

11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-first session ([A/76/20](#), para. 223).

12. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-first session ([A/76/20](#), para. 223).

13. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-first session ([A/76/20](#), para. 223).

14. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-first session ([A/76/20](#), para. 223).

The Subcommittee will have before it a background paper by the Secretariat entitled “Registration of large constellations and megaconstellations” ([A/AC.105/C.2/L.322](#)).

15. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources as an item under a workplan at its sixty-first session ([A/76/20](#), para. 223).

In its resolution [76/76](#), the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its sixty-first session, should reconvene its working group established under the agenda item entitled “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”.

16. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-second session

At its sixty-first session, the Legal Subcommittee will submit its proposal to the Committee for the draft provisional agenda for the sixty-second session of the Subcommittee.

Symposium

The Subcommittee, at its sixtieth session, agreed that the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law should be invited to organize a symposium to be held during the sixty-first session of the Legal Subcommittee ([A/AC.105/1243](#), para. 273). A symposium on the theme “National laws and regulations to ensure space sustainability” will be held in the afternoon of Tuesday, 5 April 2022.

Annex

Organization of work

1. The work of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-first session has been scheduled without precedent for any future organization of work and taking into account the extraordinary situation caused by the ongoing global coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which has had unprecedented and multifaceted effects.
2. Owing to travel and meeting restrictions resulting from the pandemic, the session will be held in a hybrid format. If restrictions resulting from pandemic-related developments preclude the holding of the session in such a format, the Chair of the Subcommittee will convene consultations with a view to reaching consensus on an organization of work through a new decision.
3. Meetings with full interpretation services will be limited to two 2-hour meetings per day for the duration of the session.
4. The number of statements to be made at each meeting under item 4, entitled “General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities”, may be limited, as necessary, in order to allow sufficient time for other agenda items to be considered as planned for each meeting. Statements should be limited to seven minutes in duration. The Chair should remind delegations when one minute remains and should interrupt the delivery of the statement when seven minutes have elapsed.
5. The Secretariat will upload statements that have been voluntarily submitted by States for uploading to the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs in a timely manner. Upon submitting statements for interpretation purposes, delegations are to inform the Secretariat as to whether the statement may be uploaded to the website.
6. The work of the Subcommittee has been scheduled so as to afford the working groups that will be convened under items 6 and 15 ample time to work. Formal meetings of working groups will receive interpretation services. Informal meetings of working groups and informal consultations under agenda items, as deemed necessary, will be held without interpretation services. The scheduling of such informal meetings will take into account the desirability of avoiding overlap in their scheduling, to the maximum extent possible.
7. Owing to the limited meeting hours available with full interpretation services at the sixty-first session, technical presentations will be delivered without simultaneous interpretation and will be scheduled from 9.45 to 10.45 a.m. and from 5.15 to 6.15 p.m. Vienna time. Technical presentations may be delivered in any of the six official languages of the United Nations. Such presentations should be closely linked to the agenda items of the Subcommittee and should not exceed 12 minutes in duration. Delegations will be reminded when 1 minute remains, and delivery of the presentation will be interrupted when 12 minutes have elapsed.
8. Within one week after the closure of the session, delegations of States members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space may provide language-related comments on the reports of working groups and the report of the Subcommittee adopted during the session.
9. An indicative schedule of work is provided below. It will be formally adopted at the first meeting of the Subcommittee. Any further changes to the indicative schedule may be decided by the Subcommittee no later than 48 hours before the start of the scheduled meeting.

Indicative schedule of work^a

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning (11 a.m.–1 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Break (1.30–2.45 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Afternoon (3–5 p.m. Vienna time)</i>
Week of 28 March–1 April 2022			
Monday, 28 March	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda Item 2. Election of the Chair Item 3. Statement by the Chair Item 4. General exchange of views		Item 4. General exchange of views Item 6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space ^b Item 15. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources ^c
Tuesday, 29 March	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space ^b Item 15. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources ^c	Informal meeting of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 7 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space Item 7 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit Item 13. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management Meeting of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space
Wednesday, 30 March	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 7 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space Item 7 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit Item 13. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management Meeting of the working group established under the agenda item entitled “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”	Informal meeting of the working group on space resources	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law Item 14. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning (11 a.m.–1 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Break (1.30–2.45 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Afternoon (3–5 p.m. Vienna time)</i>
Thursday, 31 March	<p>Item 4. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law</p> <p>Item 14. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities</p> <p>Meeting of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space</p>	<p>Informal meeting of the working group on space resources</p>	<p>Item 4. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 8. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Item 9. Capacity-building in space law</p> <p>Meeting of the working group established under the agenda item entitled “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”</p>
Friday, 1 April	<p>Item 4. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 8. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Item 9. Capacity-building in space law</p>	<p>Informal meeting of Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space</p>	<p>Item 4. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 10. Future role and method of work of the Committee</p> <p>Item 11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee</p> <p>Meeting of the working group established under the agenda item entitled “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”</p>

Date	<i>Morning (11 a.m.–1 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Break (1.30–2.45 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Afternoon (3–5 p.m. Vienna time)</i>
Week of 4–8 April 2022			
Monday, 4 April	<p>Item 4. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 10. Future role and method of work of the Committee</p> <p>Item 11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee</p> <p>Meeting of the working group established under the agenda item entitled “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”</p>	<p>Informal meeting of the working group on space resources</p>	<p>Item 4. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 12. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space</p> <p>Item 16. Proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee</p> <p>Meeting of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space</p>
Tuesday, 5 April	<p>Item 4. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 12. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space</p> <p>Item 16. Proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee</p> <p>Meeting of the working group established under the agenda item entitled “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”</p>		<p>Symposium organized by the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law on the theme “National laws and regulations to ensure space sustainability”</p>
Wednesday, 6 April	<p>Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space</p>		<p>Adoption of the report of the working group established under the agenda item entitled “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”</p>

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning (11 a.m.–1 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Break (1.30–2.45 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Afternoon (3–5 p.m. Vienna time)</i>
Thursday, 7 April	Item 17. Report to the Committee		Item 17. Report to the Committee
Friday, 8 April	Item 17. Report to the Committee		Item 17. Report to the Committee

- ^a At its thirty-eighth session, in 1995, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed that the practice of allocating specific agenda items to particular meetings at a session should be ended and that, to assist in their planning, member States would continue to be provided with an indicative schedule of work, which would be without prejudice to the actual timing of consideration of specific agenda items (A/50/20, para. 169 (b)).
- ^b The Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 76/76, will meet during the session to consider item 6. The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 6 on Wednesday, 6 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.
- ^c The working group established under the agenda item entitled “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 76/76, will meet during the session to consider item 15. The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 6 on Wednesday, 6 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.