



# General Assembly

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

## Draft report

### I. Introduction

#### A. Opening of the session

1. The Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space held its sixty-first session at the United Nations Office at Vienna from 28 March to 8 April 2022, in a hybrid format (in person and online). At its 1014th meeting, on 28 March, the Subcommittee elected Nomfuneko Majaja (South Africa) as its Chair for the period 2022–2023, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [76/76](#).
2. The Subcommittee held [...] meetings.

#### B. Adoption of the agenda

3. At its 1014th meeting, on 28 March, the Subcommittee adopted the following 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.

### **C. Attendance**

4. Representatives of the following [...] States members of the Committee attended the session: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, 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 and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
5. At its 1014th meeting, the Subcommittee decided to admit the League of Arab States as an observer, at its request, 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.
6. Observers for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat attended the session.
7. The session was attended by representatives of the European Union, in its capacity as permanent observer of the Committee and in accordance with General Assembly resolutions [65/276](#) and [73/91](#).
8. The session was attended by the following intergovernmental organizations having permanent observer status with the Committee: Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), European Southern Observatory, European Space Agency (ESA), International Institute for the Unification of Private Law

(UNIDROIT) and International Organization of Space Communications (Intersputnik).

9. The session was also attended by the following non-governmental organizations having permanent observer status with the Committee: CANEUS International, European Space Policy Institute, For All Moonkind, International Astronomical Union (IAU), International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety, International Institute of Space Law (IISL), International Law Association, Moon Village Association, National Space Society, Open Lunar Foundation, Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP), Secure World Foundation, Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Square Kilometre Array Observatory, University Space Engineering Consortium-Global (UNISEC-Global) and World Space Week Association.

10. At its 1014th meeting, the Subcommittee decided to admit the Hague Institute for Global Justice and the International Peace Alliance (Space) as observers, at their request, 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.

11. A list of the representatives of States, as well as of United Nations entities and other international organizations, attending the session is contained in document A/AC.105/C.2/2022/INF/[...].

12. The Subcommittee was informed by the Secretariat of the applications for membership in the Committee submitted by Guatemala (A/AC.105/C.2/2022/CRP.3) and Uzbekistan (A/AC.105/C.2/2022/CRP.4), which were to be considered by the Committee at its sixty-fifth session, in 2022.

13. The Subcommittee was also informed by the Secretariat of the applications for permanent observer status with the Committee submitted by the Access Space Alliance (A/AC.105/C.2/2022/CRP.5), the Hague Institute for Global Justice (A/AC.105/C.2/2022/CRP.6), the Association for the Development of the Atlantic International Research Centre (A/AC.105/C.2/2022/CRP.7) and the International Peace Alliance (Space) (A/AC.105/C.2/2022/CRP.14), to be considered by the Committee at its sixty-fifth session, in 2022.

## D. Symposium

14. On 5 April, IISL and the European Centre for Space Law (ECSL) held a symposium on the theme “National laws and regulations to ensure space sustainability”. The symposium was opened with welcoming remarks by the President of IISL, Kai-Uwe Schrogl, the Chair of ECSL, Sergio Marchisio, and the Chair of the Subcommittee, after which the following presentations were made to the Subcommittee: “Global North/South perspectives on space sustainability”, by André Ryppl; “A view from the operators on regulating space sustainability”, by Aarti Holla-Maini; “National laws on space sustainability: fragmentation or uniformization?”, by Marco Ferrazzani; “International cooperation for sharing national legal mechanisms and best practices”, by Jenni Tapio; and “The role of young generations in the quest for space sustainability”, by Ruvimbo Samanga. The presentations were made available on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat.<sup>1</sup> Following the presentations, concluding remarks were made by the President of IISL, the Chair of ECSL and the Chair of the Subcommittee.

15. The Subcommittee noted with appreciation that the symposium had made a valuable contribution to its work.

<sup>1</sup> [www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/lsc/2022/symposium.html](http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/lsc/2022/symposium.html).

**E. Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee**

16. At its [...] meeting, on [...] April, the Subcommittee adopted the present report and concluded the work of its sixty-first session.

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