

*Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space  
Sixty-sixth session  
31 May - 9 June 2023*

**REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTER-AGENCY  
MEETING ON OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES (UN-SPACE)**

*Statement by Niklas Hedman  
Acting Director, Office for Outer Space Affairs  
Secretary of UN-Space  
(United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities)*

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to provide an update on the developments regarding UN-Space, the United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, over the past 12 months.

The forty-first session of the UN-Space was held from 7 to 8 December 2022 in Bangkok, Thailand. The session was co-organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in its capacity as UN-Space secretariat, and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) as host, with the active support of the Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division of ESCAP. The report of the forty-first session of UN-Space is before you in document A/AC.105/1291.

The session was chaired by a representative of ESCAP. The session was attended by representatives of the following entities: the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the Office of Information and Communications Technology, the Office of Legal Affairs, the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the World Meteorological Organization.

At that session, UN-Space agreed on the theme of the Secretary-General's report to be presented to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its present session.

UN-Space also looked at the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system and worked on a publication.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to inform you that the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system is now available. The report, developed by UN-Space, covers 2022 and 2023, recognizes the central importance of capacity-building mandates within the United Nations system and highlights experiences in capacity-building for historically marginalized or underserved groups. The Secretary-General report is before you in document A/AC.105/1292.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

At its fortieth session, UN-Space agreed to produce a publication highlighting space-related activities within the United Nations system in 2022. This publication has been issued under

symbol number ST/SPACE/84 by and is available on the Office's website. The new publication is a valuable addition to the UN-Space publications on space and climate change and space for agriculture and food security.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Over the past year, UN-Space organized three open sessions.

The 16th open session of UN-Space, entitled "Joint UN-Space/UN-SPIDER Workshop High-level Panel on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction", was held in Bangkok on 9 December 2022, with a view to increasing the awareness of the disaster management community of current and potential activities of United Nations entities relating to the use of space technology, science and applications and/or relevant regulatory frameworks for disaster risk reduction and for dealing with unseen risks.

The 17th open session of UN-Space was held online on 14 December 2022 as an integral part of the World Space Forum. UN-Space session considered the synergies in the work of the Committee and its subcommittees and the work of United Nations entities. The session focused in particular on identifying synergies for enhanced international cooperation and advancing work in the area of space and global health, including under the Space and Global Health Platform and Network, established by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in 2022.

The 18th open session of UN-Space looked at the identification of needs of Member States and United Nations entities for capacity-building in the use of space-based observations, and was organized in Vienna from 1 to 3 March 2023, jointly with the twelfth meeting of the Working Group on Capacity-building and Data Democracy of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS).

I invite delegations to refer to document A/AC.105/1291 for more details about the open sessions.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Before I conclude my statement, I would like to draw the attention of delegates that United Nations Secretary-General in his Policy Brief 7 on Our Common Agenda entitled "For All Humanity – the Future of Outer Space Governance" recommended that United Nations entities increase their collaboration, including through the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), with a view to better coordinating their data-sharing, building United Nations system capacity and cooperating on the procurement of space-based information, to accelerate the application of space assets in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Last but not least, it is a pleasure for me to inform delegations that secretariat of UN-Space is exploring the possibility of organizing the 42nd session of UN-Space in the second half of 2023 at the United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi. The updated information on UN-Space activities would be posted on its dedicated website at [www.un-space.org](http://www.un-space.org).

Thank you for your attention.