

UNITED NATIONS
INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES (UN-Space)

Thirty-ninth session
28 October 2019
UN Headquarters, New York

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Orientation on the preparations of the “Space2030” agenda.
4. Preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system, to be submitted to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-third session, in 2020.
5. Special report by UN-Space on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation;
6. Coordination of future plans and programmes of common interest for cooperation and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas.
7. Open informal session.
8. Any other business.

Annotations*

1. **Opening of the session.**
2. **Adoption of the agenda.**
3. **Orientation on the preparations of the “Space2030” agenda.**

At the session, a representative of the Office for Outer Space Affairs will provide the Meeting with information on developments regarding the preparations of the “Space2030” agenda. The General Assembly, in its 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 of sustainable development” of 26 October 2018 invited the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to develop a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan and to provide the General Assembly with the outcome of its work for consideration by the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session in 2020.

4. **Preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system, to be submitted to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-third session, in 2020.**

The objective of the Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system is to enhance space-related inter-agency cooperation and coordination among United Nations entities and to avoid the duplication of efforts in the use of space applications.

At its thirtieth session held in Geneva on 10-12 March 2010, the United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities agreed that the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system served as a strategic tool for the United Nations to avoid duplication of efforts in the field of space science and technology, and that future reports should highlight efforts of the United Nations system in delivering as one on space-related activities for the development agenda.

At that session, the Meeting agreed that the reports of the Secretary-General should be issued on a biennial basis, starting with the period 2012-2013, and a review of this reporting structure should be made in 2017. The Meeting further agreed that in the year when there was no report of the Secretary-General, a special report on a selected topic should be considered (see item 5 below).

At its thirty-seventh session held in Geneva on 24 August 2017, UN-Space expressed its satisfaction with the existing reporting structure and agreed that reports of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system and special reports of UN-Space should continue to be issued biennially on an alternating basis.

In 2014 and 2016, the focus of the Secretary-General’s reports was on addressing the post-2015 development agenda (A/AC.105/1063*), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/AC.105/1115), respectively. The 2018 report is entitled “Coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2018–2019 — a United Nations that delivers” (A/AC.105/1179).

The 2020 report could focus on accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and look at the contribution of space science, technology and applications in the context of megatrends, such as demographic changes; urbanization; climate change; conflicts and protracted crises; and frontier technologies. Participants are invited to discuss and agree on the focus of the upcoming report to be prepared in 2020.

* The annotations are not part of the agenda adopted by UN-Space. The Meeting may choose to focus discussion on selected agenda items of interest to participants.

5. Special report by UN-Space on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation to be prepared in 2021.

At its fortieth session, in 2003, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space endorsed the proposal to strengthen inter-agency cooperation in the use of outer space within the United Nations system, as recommended by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities at its twenty-third session. Based on a recommendation of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (A/AC.105/791 and Corr.1, para. 30), the Subcommittee invited United Nations entities to submit annual reports on specific themes (A/AC.105/804, paras. 93-95).

In response to that invitation, the Inter-Agency Meeting prepared in 2005 its first special report entitled “New and emerging technologies, applications and initiatives for space-related inter-agency cooperation” (A/AC.105/843).

At its 30th session in 2010, the Inter-Agency Meeting decided that special reports on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation shall be prepared on a biennial basis.

The subsequent special reports focused on themes: “Space benefits for Africa: contribution of the United Nations system” (A/AC.105/941) in 2009; “Use of space technology within the United Nations system to address climate change issues” (A/AC.105/991) in 2011; “Space for agriculture development and food security” (A/AC.105/1042) in 2013, “Space for global health” (A/AC.105/1091) in 2015; “Role of United Nations entities in supporting Member States in the implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities” (A/AC.105/1116) in 2016, and “Space Weather” (A/AC.105/1146) in 2017.

In line with the agreement reached in 2017, the thirty-eighth session of UN-Space was organized in the form of a workshop on 29 October 2018 in New York. At the session, UN-Space noted the wealth of discussion and experiences of United Nations entities in cooperation with the private sector and agreed that its special report, to be presented to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-second session, in 2019, would focus on promoting partnerships in the use of space science, technology and applications for economic growth and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. For the UN-Space Special Report on Partnerships, issued in 2019, see A/AC.105/1200.

6. Coordination of future plans and programmes of common interest for cooperation and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas.

Participants will be invited to report on recent developments in space-related activities of their entities. Special consideration shall be given to activities that may be of interest to other United Nations entities participating in the framework of UN-Space, such as opportunities for cooperation or needs for coordination. To the extent possible presentations or statements should be limited to a maximum of ten minutes.

7. Open informal session.

UN-Space will hold its fifteenth open session on 20 November 2019 as integral part of the United Nations/Austria World Space Forum. The World Space Forum is scheduled to be held from 18 to 22 November 2019 at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), in Vienna, Austria.

8. Any other business.