



Reference: OOSA/2018/20
CU 2018/464

15 November 2018

**WORKING GROUP ON the “Space2030” AGENDA
OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE**

Draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda document-

**Proposal by the Bureau of the Working Group and call for inputs by States members of the
Committee**

Following the intersessional meeting of the newly established Working Group on the “Space2030” agenda of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held from 8-12 October 2018 in Vienna to establish its method of work and workplan, in accordance with the decision of the Committee at its sixty-first session (document A/73/20, paras. 358-364), and in accordance with the mandate of this Working Group, deriving from the General Assembly resolution 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” (document A/73/L.6) to develop a “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan, the Bureau of the Working Group has prepared a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda document, for consideration and substantive inputs by States members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space **by 30 November 2018.**

On behalf of the Bureau of the Working Group, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat has the honour disseminate the proposal by the Bureau of the Working Group for a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda document, as contained in the Annex to the present Note Verbale.

States members of the Committee are invited to provide inputs and comments to the Bureau’s proposal for a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda document by **30 November 2018.**

The inputs by States members of the Committee for the “Space2030”agenda document are to be provided **in WORD document format** to the Secretary of the Working Group, Ms. Romana Kofler at romana.kofler@un.org.

Based on these inputs, the Bureau, together with the Secretariat, will prepare a consolidated version of a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan (i.e. zero draft), to be made available in all official languages of the United Nations in advance of the fifty-sixth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, to be held from 11 to 22 February 2019, as well as posted on the Working Group’s webpage and distributed through the List of Focal Points, as assigned by States members of the Committee.

On behalf of the Bureau of the Working Group, the Office for Outer Space Affairs also informs States members of the Committee that the Information summary of the intersessional meeting of the Working Group on the “Space2030” agenda, held from 8-12 October 2018, containing a proposed way forward as well as the method of work and workplan of the Working Group, as agreed, have been made available, together with other relevant documents, on the dedicated webpage of the Working Group at <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/working-groups.html>

15 November 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'AB' with a large, stylized flourish above them.

DRAFT STRUCTURE of the “Space2030” agenda

Proposal by the Bureau of the Working Group on the “Space2030” agenda

1. Introduction

- a. Fifty years after the first global United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE I), the United Nations Member States and the international space community gathered in Vienna, on 20-21 June 2018, for the high-level segment of UNISPACE+50, to reflect on more than 50 years of achievement in space exploration and use, and to chart the future contribution of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the global governance of outer space activities¹.
- b. The United Nations General Assembly in its resolution [73/6](#) of 26 October 2018 noted with appreciation that the preparatory process and the high-level segment of UNISPACE+50 resulted in documents aimed at articulating a comprehensive, inclusive and strategically oriented vision on strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space, in which space is seen as a major driver of and contributor to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals for the benefit of all countries.
- c. The General Assembly invited the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to develop, on the basis of the results of the UNISPACE+50 process, 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.
- d. By doing so, the General Assembly has tasked the Committee to take a unique and unprecedented step forward in looking at its future work. Whereas the three UNISPACE Conferences, starting in 1958, were utilized at the global level to chart forward the role of the United Nations system in promoting international space cooperation, UNISPACE+50 and its subsequent resolution adopted by the General Assembly 73/6 has asked the Committee itself, in recognition of its expertise and deep understanding of the scope and nature of space cooperation at the governmental and non-governmental levels, to review in a comprehensive way how to position the United Nations in setting an agenda for the use of space to meet the requirements of the United Nations system, developing countries, the government sector, commercial industry and the scientific community. The “Space2030” agenda has the potential of being the seminal document that will position the UN system in a way to address the future challenges of using space technologies to inspire the imagination of the global community and provide benefits to the everyday lives of people on Earth.
- e. The “Space2030” agenda is submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolutions [72/79](#) and [73/6](#).

¹ See [A/AC.105/1137](#).

2. The “Space2030” agenda: strategic vision

- a. The “Space2030” agenda is envisioned as a policy guidance document for strengthening the contribution of space activities and space tools to the achievement of global development agendas addressing long-term development concerns of humankind, based on the peaceful exploration and use of outer space. It also aims at contributing to ensure the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and preserve the outer space environment, also in light of the significant challenge posed by space debris and increasing space traffic.
- b. It represents a framework for strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space and the global governance of outer space activities, while reaffirming the unique role played in this regard by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat.
- c. The “Space2030” agenda aims to address new challenges and opportunities in the space arena at a time when more participants, representing both governmental agencies and non-governmental entities, including industry and the private sector, are increasingly becoming involved in ventures to explore and use space and to carry out space activities.
- d. The “Space2030” agenda should further align the work of the Committee and the Office for Outer Space Affairs with the global development agendas, thus strengthening the role of the Committee, its subsidiary bodies and the Office for Outer Space Affairs as unique platforms for international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.
- e. At the same time, the “Space2030” agenda aligns with system-wide efforts made by the United Nations Secretary-General to reposition the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda within the context of his overall reform agenda, as set out in his report ([A/72/124-E/2018/3](#)), in which he calls for greater collaboration across the pillars of peace, security, development and human rights and for reduced silos and fragmentation in order to generate improved policies and products as well as the Secretary-General’s stance for the United Nations to leverage more on new, innovative technologies as a means to better deliver the mandates of the Organization as a whole.
- f. The responsibility for the implementation of the “Space2030” agenda lies with Member States, with the Office for Outer Space Affairs having a role of facilitator, including by providing its technical, policy and legal expertise. Importance is attached to global partnership and strengthened cooperation among Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and private sector entities in fulfilling the “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan.

2.1. The “Space2030” agenda and the global governance of outer space activities

- a. The “Space2030” agenda is to demonstrate the continuous and increasing relevance of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in promoting international cooperation in outer space, as well as their flexibility and responsiveness to new realities and challenges in the space arena.

b. The Committee and its Subcommittees have provided critical institutional leadership to the development of the main legal and cooperation processes in space activities. The interaction among the Committee's broad-based membership, which includes space faring nations, emerging space nations, countries that are still in the early stages of building their space infrastructures, and an impressive number of space-related intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and United Nations entities, continues to position the Committee at the centre of global space governance.

2.2. The “Space2030” agenda and global development

a. The “Space2030” agenda is to demonstrate that space tools are highly relevant for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and their respective targets, either directly, as enablers and drivers for sustainable development, or indirectly, as an integral part of the indicators for monitoring the progress towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As per recent study conducted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in cooperation with the European Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) Agency ([ST/SPACE/71](#)), the Earth observation and GNSS technologies directly benefit 65 out of the 169 SDG targets and thus represent important tools for the implementation of the internationally agreed development framework. This estimate might even be conservative, if we are to consider other space-related technologies (such as TLC) and their impact on development.

b. In particular, space technology and applications and space-derived data and information contribute to improve the formulation and subsequent implementation of policies and programmes of action in connection with, inter alia, land and water management, marine and coastal ecosystems, health care, climate change, disaster risk reduction and emergency response, energy, navigation, seismic monitoring, natural resources management, biodiversity, agriculture and food security.

3. Overarching objectives

a. Objectives of relevance for member States to be included in the “Space2030” agenda are to be defined in accordance with the above strategic vision. To this end, inputs might also be drawn from the **seven thematic priorities** (TPs) : (1) Global partnership in space exploration and innovation; (2) Legal regime of outer space and global space governance: current and future perspectives; (3) Enhanced information exchange on space objects and events ; (4) International framework for space weather services; (5) Strengthened space cooperation for global health; (6) International cooperation towards low-emission and resilient societies ; (7) Capacity-building for the twenty-first century.

4. Implementation plan of the “Space2030” agenda

As agreed, discussions on the structure of the implementation plan will start in 2019. The plan could be structured within the framework of the four pillars, namely space economy, space society, space accessibility, space diplomacy, already identified by the Committee and the General Assembly resolution [73/6](#).