

ANNOUNCEMENT

United Nations / Germany High Level Forum: The way forward after UNISPACE+50 and Space2030

Organized by the
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)
and
German Space Administration (DLR)

Co-sponsored by the
European Space Agency (ESA)

Hosted by the
German Space Administration (DLR)

13 – 16 November 2018

UN-Campus, Bonn, Germany

Background: UNISPACE+50 and the series of High-level Fora

In June 2018, the international community gathered in Vienna for UNISPACE+50, a special segment of the 61st session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). Fifty years after the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE) in 1968, and building on UNISPACE II (1982) and UNISPACE III (1999), UNISPACE+50 provided an opportunity for the international community to set the future course of global space cooperation for the benefit of humankind.

The establishment of the series of High-Level Forums demonstrates the intention of the international community to address such challenges together through cooperation and collaboration. The High-Level Forum in Bonn (HLF 2018), to be held on 13 – 16 November 2018, will be the first after UNISPACE+50. HLF 2018 will be the third in a series of High-Level Fora after the 2016 and 2017 High-Level Fora both held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Previous HLFs have provided the international space community with a unique opportunity to discuss such matters in the context of elaborating recommendations and input as part of the preparations for UNISPACE+50. To this end, four pillars space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy have been devised to provide a framework for these ongoing discussions.

HLF 2018

HLF 2018 will serve as a platform for providing updates and recommendations on the potential of space innovations to address new and emerging sustainable development challenges, building on the outcomes as highlighted in the Dubai Declaration of 2016, recommendations from the High Level Forum in November 2017 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates and the UNISPACE+50 in June 2018 in Vienna.

As the first HLF after UNISPACE+50, the occasion provides an opportunity to discuss the outcomes on UNISPACE+50. Using the UNISPACE+50 Thematic Priorities and the four pillars as a framework for discussion across two days of sessions on the thematic priorities, followed by two days of high-level panel discussions focussing on the four pillars.

HLF 2018 Objectives and Expected Outcomes

The United Nations General Assembly in its resolution on the International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (A/RES/71/90) noted that space science and technology and their applications provide indispensable tools for viable long-term solutions for sustainable development. It can contribute more effectively to efforts to promote the development of all countries and regions of the world and stress in that regard the need to harness the benefits of space technology towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In this context, the objectives of HLF 2018 include presentations and exchanges on the lessons learned and new ideas across the space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy pillars.

The objectives of the Thematic Priorities sessions, on 13 – 14 November, will address the UNISPACE+50 outcomes and the way ahead across the seven UNISPACE+50 Thematic Priorities (TPs).

The main purpose of the high-level panels, on 15 – 16 November, will be to build on the results of the thematic priorities sessions, with a view to focus the High-Level Forum towards the production of pertinent recommendations about the way ahead for UNISPACE+50.

The expected outcomes of HLF 2018 will be to serve as an important platform for providing updates and recommendations on the potential of space innovations to address new and emerging sustainable development challenges. Building on the outcomes of HLFs 2016 and 2017 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates and the UNISPACE+50 in June 2018 in Vienna, Austria respectively. Expected outcomes of HLF2018 will be to elaborate on the way ahead after UNISPACE+50 through a number of recommendations to complement and inform, as appropriate, future sessions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Subcommittees.

Preliminary Agenda of the Forum

Monday 12 November, pre-registration and evening 'get together' at the Bonn Marriott World Conference Hotel

DAY 1: Tuesday, 13 November 2018

OPENING AND WELCOME REMARKS

Welcome, opening address, and keynote speeches.

SESSION 1: Global Partnership in Space Exploration and Innovation (TP 1)

Thematic Priority One (TP1) aims to raise awareness of space exploration and innovation as essential drivers for opening up new domains in space science and technology, triggering new partnerships and developing capabilities that create new opportunities for addressing global challenges. It also fosters dialogue with the space industry and the private sector. Promotes cooperation between spacefaring nations and emerging space nations. Allows space exploration activities to become open and inclusive on a global scale.

SESSION 2: Furthering Sustainable Development and Strengthening International Cooperation for Global Health (TP 5) and Low-emission and Resilient Societies (TP 6)

Thematic Priority Five (TP5) speaks to the need to improve the use of space technologies and space-based information and systems in the global health domain. Through, for example, enhancing international cooperation and information sharing in health emergencies, epidemics and early warning events.

Thematic Priority Six (TP6) invites discussion on how to better Define synergies between climate change mitigation, disaster risk reduction and global development and reducing emissions by replacing carbon energy with renewable energy. TP6 further calls for the development of a road map for enhanced resiliency of space-based systems and the affiliation of existing and future earth observation, global navigation satellite system and

telecommunication constellations for disaster risk reduction and climate change monitoring and mitigation. Such action should enhance integrated space applications approaches and the interoperability of space-based systems and ground/in situ systems. Finally, TP6 touches on the need to address geographical areas not currently sufficiently monitored for such purposes outlined above.

DAY 2: Wednesday, 14 November 2018

SESSION 3: Legal Regime of Outer Space and Global Space Governance (TP 2)

Thematic Priority Two (TP2) promotes the universality of the five United Nations treaties on outer space. TP2 aims to assess the state of affairs of those treaties and their relationship with other relevant international instruments, such as principles, resolutions and guidelines governing space activities.

Overall, analyse the effectiveness of the legal regime of outer space in the twenty-first century, with a view to identifying areas that may require additional regulation.

SESSION 4: Enhanced Information Exchange on Space Objects and Events (TP 3) and an International Framework for Space Weather Services (TP 4)

Thematic Priority Three (TP3) looks to define and develop requirements for enhanced information exchange and notification procedures under the United Nations Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space. This process takes into account the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities (A/68/189) and the future guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities specifically addressing risk-reduction notification needs.

Thematic Priority Four (TP4) explores ways to strengthen the reliability of space systems and their ability to respond to the impact of adverse space weather. It aims to develop a space weather road map for international coordination and information exchange on space weather events and their mitigation, through risk analysis and assessment of user needs. TP4 also serves to recognise and raise awareness concerning space weather as a global challenge.

UN-SPIDER / BONN NETWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The morning session (09:00 – 13:00) on November 14 will also see a parallel event dedicated to the UN-Space-based information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) and a Bonn-based Network for International Development.

SESSION 5: Capacity-Building for the 21st Century (TP 7)

Thematic Priority 7 (TP7) seeks to define new innovative and effective approaches to

overall capacity building and development needs as a fundamental pillar of global space governance. Strengthen comprehensive capacity building and outreach activities of the Office for Outer Space Affairs. Develop infrastructure for cross-sectoral and integrated applications, with combined scientific, technical, legal and policy outputs. Enhance existing partnerships and forge new ones to strengthen and deliver targeted capacity-building and technical advisory activities based on needs assessments. Promote efforts to encourage science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, especially for women in developing countries.

DAY 3: Thursday, 15 November 2018

OPENING AND WELCOME REMARKS

Introductory remarks and reflection on the discussions during the 13 – 14 November sessions.

HIGH LEVEL PANEL I : Space Diplomacy – Building partnerships and strengthening international cooperation and the governance of space activities

‘Space Diplomacy’ has been characterised as being for fostering socio-economic sustainable development, is to be defined as cooperation among nations in using space technologies and applications to address common challenges facing humanity and to build constructive, knowledge-based partnerships.

HIGH LEVEL PANEL II : Space Society – Advancing the societal benefits of space-related activities

‘Space Society’ refers to a society, which carries out its core functions while making the best use of space technologies and space-based services and applications.

DAY 4: Friday, 16 November 2018

HIGH LEVEL PANEL III : Space Economy – Developing space-derived economic benefits

‘Economy’ has been defined as "the full range of activities and use of resources that create and provide value and benefits to human beings in the course of exploring, understanding and utilizing space", is driven by technology innovation, and space is innovation by definition, because it is at the edge of what is possible for humanity to do

and develop.

HIGH LEVEL PANEL IV : Space Accessibility – Access to space for all

‘Space Accessibility’ refers to all user communities and decision-makers being able, on an equal basis, to benefit from and use space technologies and space-based data.

CONCLUSION HIGH LEVEL FORUM

Review and approval of the Recommendations

Working language

The working language of HLF 2018 will be English.

Poster exhibit

A HLF 2018 poster exhibit will be organized to allow speakers and participants to present and exchange ideas and initiatives. The posters will be grouped by subject and authors will be invited to accompany their respective posters during specific ‘poster sessions’ according to the schedule in the programme.

Sponsorship of the Forum

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), German Space Administration (DLR), the European Space Agency (ESA) are co-sponsors of the High Level Forum. **Sponsorship of the Forum is open to other interested entities.**

Expected Participants

The High Level Forum is expected to bring together around 120 participants from national, regional, and international public and private organizations and institutions including. The target audience is decision-makers from government agencies (space agencies, ministries, etc.); high-ranking officials from regional and international agencies involved; representatives and experts from the United Nations agencies. Additionally, experts from the space community; entrepreneurial and business academic community and policy makers; experts from international Centres of Excellence; researchers involved in the use of space activities; representatives of the private sector in the space and non-space fields; and civil society leaders are also encouraged to express interest.

Participation requirements

Applicants must have well-established professional working experience in the fields related to the topics of the Forum. Applicants, who can demonstrate that this Forum is central to their professional activities and/or responsibilities, will be selected on a priority basis. Applications from qualified female participants are particularly encouraged.

Designated participants will have the opportunity to prepare a presentation of approximately 10 – 20 minutes on topics relevant to the Forum objectives. Presentations on actual ongoing projects/initiatives to showcase best practices will be of particular interest to participants of the Forum. In addition, they are expected to contribute to reporting activities of the Forum. It is also necessary to submit an abstract of presentation with a maximum of 600 words including the following details: *Paper Title, Author (s) Name(s), Affiliation(s), and e-mail address for the presenting author.*

Presentations made at the Forum will be published on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs (www.unoosa.org) approximately two weeks after the Forum concluded.

Financial support

Within the limited financial resources available, a number of selected participants will be offered financial support to attend the Forum. This financial support will defray the cost of travel (a round trip airticket – most economic fare – between an airport of international departure in their home country and an airport close to the Forum’s venue) and/or the room and board expenses for the duration of the Forum. The co-sponsors of the Forum will jointly select participants on a competitive basis. Successful applicants will be notified within two weeks after the application deadline.

Deadline for Submission of Applications and Abstracts

For those seeking financial support - the completed application form together with the presentation abstract should be submitted on-line **no later than Sunday, 20 August 2018.**

<https://register.unoosa.org/civCRM/event/info?reset=1&id=105>

Only complete applications with all the requested information and signatures will be considered by the Forum Programme Committee.

For self-funded participants - the completed application form together with the requested information should be submitted on-line **no later than Sunday, 28 October 2018.**

<https://register.unoosa.org/civCRM/event/info?id=107>

Life and Health Insurance

Life/major health insurance for each of the selected participants is necessary and **is the responsibility of the candidate or his/her institution or Government.** The co-sponsors will not assume any responsibility for life and major health insurance, nor for expenses related to medical treatment or accidents.

Contact Information

For information regarding the submission of nominations for attendance and funding as well as the programme and sponsorship of the Forum please contact:

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