Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Information furnished in conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space

Note verbale dated 21 September 2009 from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations (Vienna) addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations (Vienna) presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit, in accordance with article IV of the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex), information concerning the Optus D3 satellite (international designator 2009-044B) launched by the Government of Australia in August 2009 (see annex).
Annex

Registration data on a space object launched by Australia*

Optus D3 satellite

Name of launching State or States:
   In accordance with article 1, paragraph (a) (i): Australia
   In accordance with article 1, paragraph (a) (ii): France

Appropriate designator of space object or its registration number:

   Name: Optus D3
   COSPAR international designator: 2009-044B

Date and territory or location of launch:

   Launch date: 21 August 2009 at 2209 hours UTC
   Launch location: Guiana Space Centre, Kourou, French Guiana

Basic orbital parameters:

   Nodal period: Since the satellite is in geostationary orbit, the concept of a “nodal period” is not applicable. However, the orbital period is approximately 86,166 seconds
   Inclination: 0.0 ± 0.05 degrees
   Apogee: 35,780 kilometres
   Perigee: 35,780 kilometres
   Longitude: 156 ± 0.05 degrees east

General function of the space object: Commercial telecommunications within Australia, New Zealand and nearby islands

* The registration data are reproduced in the form in which they were received.