Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

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

Letter dated 31 May 2013 from the Legal Counsel and Head of the Legal Department of the European Space Agency to the Secretary-General

In conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex), the rights and obligations of which the European Space Agency has declared its acceptance of, the Agency has the honour to transmit information on the launching of the space objects Proba-V (international designator 2013-021A) and VV02 AVUM DEB (international designator 2013-021D) (see annex).

(Signed)
Marco Ferrazzani
Legal Counsel
Head of the Legal Department
Annex

Registration data on space objects launched by the European Space Agency*

Proba-V

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

Committee on Space Research international designator: 2013-021A

Name of space object: Proba-V

State of registry: European Space Agency

Date and territory or location of launch

Date of launch: 7 May 2013 02:06:31 hrs UTC

Territory or location of launch: Guiana Space Centre, Kourou, French Guiana

Basic orbital parameters (at epoch 8 May 2013 01:43:26 hrs UTC)

- Nodal period: 101.21 minutes
- Inclination: 98.73 degrees
- Apogee: 820 kilometres (geocentric with a 6,378-km radius)
- Perigee: 813 kilometres (geocentric with a 6,378-km radius)

General function of space object: Proba-V is a 138.2-kg satellite built by QinetiQ Space Belgium. It carries the Vegetation imager to map global vegetation cover every two days, as a follow-on to the first-generation Vegetation imagers on France’s Spot-4 and Spot-5 satellites. Vegetation is a high-technology optical imager designed to provide 350-m resolution imagery in four visible and infrared bands with a 2,250-km swath width that allows daily coverage of all areas within 35-75 degrees North and 35-56 degrees South. Proba-V is flying in the same orbit as Spot-5 in order to take over from the latter after its retirement in 2014. Proba-V also hosts a series of technology payloads.

* The information was submitted using the form prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 62/101 and has been reformatted by the Secretariat.
VV02 AVUM DEB (VESPA upper part)

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

Committee on Space Research international designator: 2013-021D

Name of space object: VV02 AVUM DEB (VESPA upper part)

State of registry: European Space Agency

Date and territory or location of launch

Date of launch: 7 May 2013 02:06:31 hrs UTC

Territory or location of launch: Guiana Space Centre, Kourou, French Guiana

Basic orbital parameters (at epoch 8 May 2013 04:42:34 hrs UTC)

Nodal period: 99.67 minutes

Inclination: 98.73 degrees

Apogee: 815 kilometres (geocentric with a 6,378-km radius)

Perigee: 671 kilometres (geocentric with a 6,378-km radius)

General function of space object: The Vega Secondary Payload Adaptor (VESPA) has been designed for multiple payload deployment in different orbits and was used as such during the second Vega flight (which constituted the first of a series of flights of the Vega Research and Technology Accompaniment (VERTA) development programme). After the release of the first payload (Proba-V), and prior to release of the second and third payloads (VNREDSAT-1 and ESTCube-1), the VESPA upper part was ejected. The lower part re-entered the Earth’s atmosphere together with the AVUM (VEGA fourth stage). The VESPA upper part is non-functional.