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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF
OUTER SPACE

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

Forty-first session

Vienna, 16-27 February 2004

Agenda item 14

**Draft provisional agenda for the forty-second session
of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**

**Proposal for a work plan on
Near Earth Objects**

Proposed by the United Kingdom and supported by the members of the Action Team on Near-Earth
Objects (Recommendation 14)

Introduction

The Vienna Declaration in the section (1 c) covering, “Advancing the scientific knowledge of space and protecting the space environment”, includes at subsection (iii) the recommendation that has become the target of activity for Action Team 14. The subsection recommends that action should be taken, “To improve the international coordination of activities related to Near Earth Objects (NEOs), harmonising the worldwide efforts directed at identification, follow-up observation and orbit prediction while at the same time giving consideration to developing a common strategy that would include future activities related to NEOs.

Work Plan

2005 (1st year)

Reports by International Organisations, regional bodies and others active in the field of NEO research, including the areas of detection and follow-up activity. In particular reports and presentations from ICSU (on its multidisciplinary activity on NEOs involving the IAU, Cospas and other Scientific Unions) as well as from the OECD, on the work they will have undertaken in 2004. Other organisations taking a significant role in the NEO area could also be asked to make presentations.

Update the work programme for later years as required.

2006 (2nd year)

Reports from Member States and International Organisations on their NEO activities, including missions, search and follow-up as well as plans for future activity.

Setting up of a working group to consider the way forward and specifically the possible need for further activity to be carried out nationally, regionally or via international cooperation. Such consideration of cooperation should be taken together with the prospects for harmonisation and routes for broader collaboration.

Update the work programme for the 3rd year as necessary and consider the need for intersessional work.

2007 (3rd year)

Continue reporting by Member States and International Organisations on the range of NEO related activities.

The working group should continue its work and make proposals as necessary, building on its work in the 2nd year.

Consider the range of, and suitable mechanisms for, further work on NEOs.