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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF  
OUTER SPACE

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

Forty-second session

Vienna, 21 February-4 March 2005

**Agenda item 8**

**Use of nuclear power sources in outer space**

## **Preliminary List of Potential Topics for the Joint Technical Workshop on Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space**

The present document contains a preliminary list of potential topics that could be addressed during the joint technical workshop to discuss the scope and general attributes of a potential safety framework for nuclear power source applications in outer space, to be held during the forty-third session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in 2006.

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## **Preliminary List of Potential Topics for the Joint Technical Workshop on Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space**

### **I. Objectives**

- (A) To enhance the proposed outline of objectives, scope and attributes for an international technically based framework of goals and recommendations for the safety of planned and currently foreseeable nuclear power source applications in outer space.
- (B) To enhance the definition of potential implementation options for establishing an international technically based framework of goals and recommendations for the safety of planned and currently foreseeable nuclear power source applications in outer space.

### **II. Possible Papers**

#### 1. Background

- (a) Presentation on planned and currently foreseeable NPS applications in outer space and their scope;
- (b) Unique design considerations for space nuclear power source applications in outer space;
- (c) National perspectives on evolution of NPS designs with respect to safety considerations; and
- (d) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) activities in the development of international standards for safety.

#### 2. Pertinent to objective (A)

- (a) Review of international documents and national processes potentially relevant to the peaceful uses of nuclear power sources in outer space (co-authored by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and IAEA);
- (b) Minimum essential elements of a safety framework; and
- (c) Design safety considerations for launch and mission accidents.

3. Pertinent to objective (B)
  - (a) Key issues in harmonizing IAEA and Scientific and Technical Subcommittee processes for establishing an international technically based framework of goals and recommendations for the safety of planned and currently foreseeable nuclear power source applications in outer space; and
  - (b) Implementation plan considerations for Options 1 and 3.