



# General Assembly

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## Committee on the Peaceful

### Uses of Outer Space

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

Forty-third session

Vienna, 20 February-3 March 2006

Agenda item 9

### Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

## Draft report of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space

1. At its 644th meeting, on 23 February 2006, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee reconvened its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space under the chairmanship of Sam A. Harbison (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).
2. At the 1st meeting of the Working Group, on 24 February, the Chairman recalled the tasks before the Working Group, as contained in the multi-year workplan covering the period 2003-2007 for developing an international technically based framework of goals and recommendations for the safety of nuclear power source applications in outer space, which the Subcommittee had endorsed at its fortieth session (A/AC.105/804, annex III) and amended at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex III). The Working Group informed the Subcommittee of the overall progress that had been made to date in achieving the objectives of the workplan for the period 2003-2007.
3. The Working Group noted the success of the technical workshop on the objectives, scope and general attributes of a potential technical safety framework for nuclear power sources in outer space, which had been organized jointly by the Subcommittee and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna from 20 to 22 February 2006, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/99 and the multi-year workplan of the Working Group.
4. It was noted that the papers and presentations delivered at the workshop (A/AC.105/C.1/2006/NPS/WP.1-10 and A/AC.105/C.1/2006/NPS/CRP.1-14) were available in electronic format on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat ([www.unoosa.org](http://www.unoosa.org)).



5. Following its extensive consideration of the preliminary draft report of the workshop, contained in a document entitled “Preliminary draft report of the joint technical workshop on the objectives, scope and general attributes of a potential technical safety framework for nuclear power sources in outer space”, the Working Group approved the preliminary draft report (see annex [...] to the present report).
6. The Working Group recommended that, in accordance with its multi-year workplan, the next intersessional meeting should be held in Vienna from 12 to 14 June 2006, during the forty-ninth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
7. The Working Group requested the Secretariat to distribute the preliminary draft report of the workshop to member States of the Committee and of IAEA, for their review and comment, so that it could be considered by the Working Group at its next intersessional meeting, in June 2006.
8. The Working Group agreed that the preliminary draft report of the workshop, as well as comments to be received from member States of the Committee and of IAEA, would serve as the basis for an updated report of the workshop, which would be submitted to the Secretariat, for subsequent distribution to the member States of the Committee.
9. The Working Group agreed that, in accordance with the conclusions contained in the preliminary draft report of the workshop, the secretariat of the Committee should prepare and submit to IAEA a letter containing a number of questions identified at the workshop that were contained in the preliminary draft report. The letter would request IAEA to submit the replies to the questions by 14 April 2006, so that the secretariat of the Committee would be able to have the replies translated and distributed three weeks prior to the intersessional meeting of the Working Group to be held in June 2006.
10. The Working Group recommended that, for the purpose of consistency, it would refer in future to document A/AC.105/L.253/Rev.2 for the definition of “the international technically based framework of goals and recommendations for the safety of planned and currently foreseeable nuclear power source applications in outer space”.
11. At its [...] meeting, on [...], the Working Group adopted the present report.

## **Annex**

### **Preliminary draft report of the joint technical workshop on the objectives, scope and general attributes of a potential technical safety framework for nuclear power sources in outer space**

*[The text of the preliminary draft report, as contained in A/AC.105/C.1/2006/CRP.20/Rev.2, will be reproduced in this annex in the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session.]*