
COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF
OUTER SPACE
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Forty-fourth session
Vienna, 12-23 February 2007
Agenda item 7
Space Debris

NATIONAL RESEARCH ON SPACE DEBRIS, SAFETY OF SPACE OBJECTS WITH NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES ON BOARD AND PROBLEMS RELATING TO THEIR COLLISION WITH SPACE DEBRIS

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its forty-third session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee invited Member States and space agencies to continue to provide reports on research on space debris, safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating to their collision with space debris (A/AC.105/869, para. 96). In a note verbale dated 25 August 2006, the Secretary-General invited Governments to submit any information on the matter by 30 October 2006 so that that information could be submitted to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-fourth session.

2. The present document contains a report received from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya¹. Reports that were received by 30 October 2006 are available in all official languages of the United Nations and have been distributed as document A/AC.105/888.

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

3. Stressing the need for promoting international and regional cooperation for preserving the safety of the outer-space environment and its void of all harmful substances ensuing from the problems of space debris and the accumulation of space masses as well as the difficulties connected with colliding space entities particularly those carrying in them sources of nuclear power.

¹ This report has not been formally edited. It will be edited, translated into all official languages of the United Nations and distributed as document A/AC.105/888/Add.1 after the forty-fourth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.



4. Preserving the safety of the inner-space environment including the inner surrounding, the earth inner surrounding and the spherical domains, aims at protecting the life of mankind and the coming generations. Hence the necessity and significance of measures for lessening the space debris in order to reach a safe space environment.
5. Confirming the significance of modern technology in protecting the space systems and limiting generation of new space debris which causes harm to the space environment.
6. Ascertaining the significance of strengthening international cooperation for activating the early warning systems, and utilization of the technology of remote sensing in sustainable development, as well as the technological application in the domain of satellites for monitoring the earth so as to meet the needs of developing countries. This could be made through providing and allowing the flow of technical knowledge, information and expertise as well their division amongst the specialized scientific centers in developed countries and developing countries without any constraints or conditions.
7. Providing scientific and technical assistance for developing countries in the development of its national capacities in the domain of outer-space exploration for peaceful aims through training, research activities and technology transfer.
8. Ascertaining the need to promote the international cooperation for implementing international strategies suitable for lessening the risks of space debris and its decrease to the minimum extent possible in conformity with the regulations and principles of the United Nations as well as the relevant resolutions and recommendations. This is in recognition of what the space debris constitutes and the problems associated with it, including real challenges ahead of the utilization by the current and future generations of benefits allowed by the outer space in peaceful aims.
9. We stress the importance of the vital role which the developed countries and the specialized international organizations should play in the protection of space systems from space debris; and the development and usage of appropriate technologies with a view to lessening the space debris and encouraging researches on the technology of space-debris monitoring on the national level.
10. Inviting the developed countries to extend further efforts as well as material and scientific support for developing scientific researches in the domain of safety applications of the sources of nuclear power in the outer space.
11. Affirming the need for limiting the usage of nuclear substances and fuels in space shuttles, satellites and other space activities.
12. Advocating the importance of devoting part of the scientific research activities for studying the implications that may ensue on space activities in which the sources of nuclear energy are used, prior to implementation measures with a view to lessening or limiting their effects which are harmful to the environment of the outer space.