
**Committee on the Peaceful Uses of
Outer Space**
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Forty-fifth session
Vienna, 11-22 February 2008
Agenda item 12
Near-Earth Objects

Consideration of Ways to Further the Work of the Working Group on Near-Earth Objects

At its fiftieth session, in 2007, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space noted with satisfaction the work carried out by the Working Group on Near-Earth Objects of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects and endorsed the following new multi-year workplan for 2008-2010:¹

- 2008 Continuation of intersessional work and consideration of reports submitted in response to the annual request for information on NEO activities. The presentations would focus on national, regional and international collaborative activity for observation and analysis of NEOs. While much progress is being made to reach current targets and new targets are under consideration, there remains a need to coordinate observations better and ensure timely follow-up. Updating of the interim report of the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects.
- 2009 Continuation of annual reporting on NEO activities and intersessional work in preparation for the 2009 theme, which will include an update on NEO missions and submission of an outline programme of draft procedures related to threat handling at the international level. Review and updating of the interim report.
- 2010 Continuation of drafting (or agreeing on) international procedures for threat handling and review of progress on cooperation and collaboration on observations. Review and updating of the interim report.

¹*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/62/20), para. 138.*



The Working Group on Near-Earth Objects held informal consultations during the forty-fifth session of the Subcommittee to consider its further work on near-Earth objects. On the basis of those consultations the Chairman of the Working Group is proposing that the workplan for 2009-2011 be amended as follows:

- 2009 Consider the reports submitted in response to the annual request for information on near-Earth object activities and continue intersessional work. Continue to review policies and procedures related to NEO threat handling at the international level and consider drafting of international procedures for NEO threat handling. Work within the framework of the International Year of Astronomy 2009 to raise awareness of the NEO threat. Review and update the interim report of the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects.
- 2010 Consider the reports submitted in response to the annual request for information on near-Earth object activities and continue intersessional work. Continue drafting, and seek agreement on, international procedures for NEO threat handling. Review progress of the international cooperation and collaboration on NEO observations. Facilitate a more robust international NEO threat detection capability for data-exchange, processing and archive and dissemination. Review and update the interim report of the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects.
- 2011 Consider the reports submitted in response to the annual request for information on near-Earth object activities and continue intersessional work. Finalize the agreement on international procedures for NEO threat handling and engage international stakeholders. Review progress of the international cooperation and collaboration on NEO observations and NEO threat detection capability for data-exchange, processing and archive and dissemination. Consider the final report of the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects.