



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
10 December 2009

Original: English

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Forty-seventh session
Vienna, 8-19 February 2010**

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of the Chairman.
3. Statement by the Chairman.
4. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities.
5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications.
6. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III).
7. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment.
8. Space debris.
9. Space-system-based disaster management support.
10. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems.
11. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space.
12. Near-Earth objects.
13. International Space Weather Initiative.
14. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities.
15. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in

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space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.

16. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
17. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Annotations*

2. Election of the Chairman

In paragraph 43 of its resolution 64/86 entitled “International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space”, the General Assembly endorsed the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2010-2011,¹ and agreed that the Committee and its subcommittees should elect their officers at their respective sessions in 2010 in accordance with that composition.

The Committee, at its fifty-second session, agreed that Ulrich Huth (Germany) should be elected to the office of Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.²

3. Statement by the Chairman

The Chairman will make a statement reviewing developments of relevance to the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee that have taken place since its forty-sixth session. After the statement, the Subcommittee will organize its schedule of work.

4. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities

The annual written reports submitted by Member States on their space activities will be made available to the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/953 and addenda). The statements under this agenda item should be roughly 5 to 10 minutes in length (see A/AC.105/786, para. 16).

5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications

In paragraph 17 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly noted with appreciation that the activities planned by the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2010 would address, inter alia, water resources management, socio-economic benefits of space activities, small satellite technology for sustainable development, space weather, global navigation satellite systems, search and rescue and space law.³

* The annotations and the indicative schedule of work are not part of the agenda to be adopted by the Subcommittee.

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/64/20)*, para. 309.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*, para. 82.

The Subcommittee will have before it a report of the Expert on Space Applications, covering the implementation of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications in 2009 and 2010 and containing a list of States contributing to the Trust Fund of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (A/AC.105/969).

The Subcommittee will also have before it the following reports on training courses, symposiums and workshops organized by the Programme in 2009:

(a) United Nations/Azerbaijan/United States of America/European Space Agency Workshop on the Applications of Global Navigation Satellite Systems, held in Baku from 11 to 15 May 2009 (A/AC.105/946);

(b) United Nations/Austria/European Space Agency Symposium on Small Satellite Programmes for Sustainable Development, held in Graz, Austria, from 8 to 11 September 2009 (A/AC.105/966);

(c) United Nations/Peru/European Space Agency Workshop on Integrated Space Technology Applications for Sustainable Development in the Mountain Regions of Andean Countries, held in Lima from 14 to 19 September 2009 (A/AC.105/968);

(d) United Nations/European Space Agency/National Aeronautics and Space Administration/Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Workshop on Basic Space Science and the International Heliophysical Year 2007, held in Daejeon, Republic of Korea, from 21 to 25 September 2009 (A/AC.105/964);

(e) United Nations/International Astronautical Federation Workshop on Integrated Space Technologies and Space-based Information for Analysis and Prediction of Climate Change, held in Daejeon, Republic of Korea, from 9 to 11 October 2009 (A/AC.105/970);

(f) Tenth United Nations/International Academy of Astronautics Workshop on Small Satellites in the Service of Developing Countries, held in Daejeon, Republic of Korea, on 13 October 2009 (A/AC.105/971).

In paragraph 9 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, should reconvene the Working Group of the Whole.

The Working Group of the Whole will consider the United Nations Programme on Space Applications.

6. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)

In paragraph 32 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly noted with appreciation that a number of the recommendations set out in the Plan of Action of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III (see A/59/174, sect. VI.B) had been implemented and that satisfactory progress was being made in implementing the outstanding recommendations. The Working Group of the Whole will consider the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III.

8. Space debris

In paragraph 13 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly noted with appreciation that some States were already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee Guidelines and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,⁴ endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 62/217.

In paragraph 14 of the same resolution, the General Assembly invited other Member States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

In paragraph 15 of the same resolution, the General Assembly considered that it was essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources, space debris and other aspects of space debris. The Assembly called for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris. It also considered that, to the extent possible, information on space debris should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agreed that international cooperation was needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on national research on space debris, safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating to their collision with space debris, containing information received by the Secretariat from Member States (A/AC.105/951 and addenda).

9. Space-system-based disaster management support

In paragraph 20 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly noted with satisfaction the progress made within the framework of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) in the implementation of the platform programme for the period 2007-2009.

In paragraph 21 of the same resolution, the General Assembly endorsed the workplan of the UN-SPIDER programme for the biennium 2010-2011,⁵ and encouraged Member States to provide all necessary support, on a voluntary basis, to UN-SPIDER, including financial support, to enable it to carry out the workplan.

In paragraph 22 of the same resolution, the General Assembly welcomed the fact that, in accordance with its resolution 61/110, regional support offices had been established in Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria and Romania, and that a cooperation agreement had been reached with the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre to support the implementation of activities within the framework of UN-SPIDER.⁶

The Subcommittee will have before it a document on the capacity-building strategy of UN-SPIDER (A/AC.105/947), a document on the progress made in 2009 in

⁴ Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 117 and 118, and annex.

⁵ See A/AC.105/937.

⁶ Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), para. 122.

implementing UN-SPIDER (A/AC.105/955) and a document on outreach activities carried out in 2009 in the framework of UN-SPIDER (A/AC.105/952).

The Working Group of the Whole will consider space-system-based disaster management support.

10. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems

In paragraph 18 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly welcomed the progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG) towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries.

In paragraph 19 of the same resolution, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that the Office for Outer Space Affairs should continue to serve as the executive secretariat of ICG and its Providers' Forum.⁷

The fourth meeting of ICG was held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 14 to 18 September 2009, and its fifth meeting will be jointly organized by Italy and the European Commission in 2010.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the fourth meeting of ICG (A/AC.105/948) and a report of the activities carried out in 2009 in the framework of the ICG workplan (A/AC.105/950).

11. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

In paragraph 9 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.

In paragraph 11 of the same resolution, the General Assembly welcomed with satisfaction the Safety Framework for Nuclear Power Source Applications in Outer Space, adopted by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-sixth session and endorsed by the Committee at its fifty-second session.⁸

In paragraph 12 of the same resolution, the General Assembly noted that the Commission on Safety Standards of the International Atomic Energy Agency had agreed on the Safety Framework at its twenty-fifth meeting, in April 2009, and welcomed the constructive and efficient cooperation between the Subcommittee and the Agency in the preparation of the Safety Framework, which was an example of successful inter-agency cooperation within the United Nations system.

12. Near-Earth objects

In paragraph 9 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on Near-Earth Objects.

⁷ Ibid., para. 133.

⁸ Ibid., para. 138, and A/AC.105/934.

The Working Group will continue the work begun during the intersessional period on drafting international procedures for handling the threat posed by near-Earth objects (NEOs) and seek agreement on those procedures, review progress on international cooperation and collaboration on NEO observations, and facilitate, for the purpose of NEO threat detection, a more robust international capability for the exchange, processing, archiving and dissemination of data.⁹

The Subcommittee will have before it a report containing information on research in the field of near-Earth objects carried out by member States, international organizations and other entities (A/AC.105/949). In addition, the fourth interim report of the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects will be made available to the Subcommittee.

13. International Space Weather Initiative

In paragraph 10 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly welcomed the fact that the Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, would begin consideration under a multi-year workplan of a new item entitled “International Space Weather Initiative”.¹⁰

According to the workplan, the Subcommittee will have before it a report on regional and international plans to implement the International Space Weather Initiative (A/AC.105/967 and addendum) and will consider continued operation of existing instrument arrays and encourage the additional deployment of new such instruments.

14. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities

In paragraph 10 of its resolution 64/86, the General Assembly welcomed the fact that the Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, would begin consideration under a multi-year workplan of a new item entitled “Long-term sustainability of outer space activities”.¹¹

According to the workplan, the Subcommittee will conduct a general exchange of views on present and future challenges facing outer space activities, as well as potential measures that could enhance the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, with a view to establishing a working group open to all States members of the Committee.¹²

16. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

The Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, will submit its proposal to the Committee for a draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Subcommittee, in 2011. In accordance with an agreement reached by the Committee at its forty-second session, discussion under this item should include identification

⁹ A/AC.105/911, annex III, para. 11.

¹⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/64/20)*, paras. 155 and 164, and A/AC.105/933, annex I, para. 16.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/64/20)*, paras. 161 and 164.

¹² *Ibid.*, para. 161.

of subjects to be dealt with as single issues/items for discussion or under multi-year workplans.¹³ This item will be considered by the Working Group of the Whole.

Symposium

The Committee welcomed the agreement of the Subcommittee that the topic for the symposium to strengthen the partnership with industry (the industry symposium), to be organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs and held during the first week of the forty-seventh session of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/933, annex I, para. 19), should be “Nurturing the development of space technology”.¹⁴

¹³ Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20 and corrigendum* (A/54/20 and Corr.1), annex I, sect. A.

¹⁴ Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), para. 163.

Annex

Indicative schedule of work*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Week of 8-12 February 2010		
Monday, 8 February	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda Item 2. Election of the Chairman Item 3. Statement by the Chairman Item 4. General exchange of views	Industry symposium organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs on the theme "Nurturing the development of space technology"
Tuesday, 9 February	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications ^a Item 11. Nuclear power sources ^b	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications ^a Item 11. Nuclear power sources ^b
Wednesday, 10 February	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications ^a Item 6. UNISPACE III ^a Item 11. Nuclear power sources ^b	Item 5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications ^a Item 6. UNISPACE III ^a Item 11. Nuclear power sources ^b
Thursday, 11 February	Item 6. UNISPACE III ^a Item 8. Space debris Item 9. Disaster management support ^a Item 14. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities	Item 6. UNISPACE III ^a Item 8. Space debris Item 9. Disaster management support ^a Item 14. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities
Friday, 12 February	Item 8. Space debris Item 9. Disaster management support ^a Item 10. Global navigation satellite systems Item 14. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities	Item 8. Space debris Item 9. Disaster management support ^a Item 10. Global navigation satellite systems Item 14. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities
Week of 15-19 February 2010		
Monday, 15 February	Item 10. Global navigation satellite systems Item 12. Near-Earth objects ^c Item 13. International Space Weather Initiative	Item 10. Global navigation satellite systems Item 12. Near-Earth objects ^c Item 13. International Space Weather Initiative
Tuesday, 16 February	Item 12. Near-Earth objects ^c Item 13. International Space Weather Initiative Item 15. Geostationary orbit	Item 12. Near-Earth objects ^c Item 13. International Space Weather Initiative Item 15. Geostationary orbit

* At its thirty-eighth session, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed that member States would continue to be provided with an indicative schedule of work, which would be without prejudice to the actual timing of consideration of specific agenda items (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/50/20)*, paras. 168 and 169 (b)).

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Wednesday, 17 February	Item 7. Remote sensing Item 15. Geostationary orbit Item 16. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Subcommittee ^a	Item 7. Remote sensing Item 15. Geostationary orbit Item 16. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Subcommittee ^a
Thursday, 18 February	Item 7. Remote sensing Item 16. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Subcommittee ^a Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space	Item 7. Remote sensing Item 16. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Subcommittee ^a Adoption of the report of the Working Group on Near-Earth Objects
Friday, 19 February	Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole Item 17. Report to the Committee	Item 17. Report to the Committee

^a The Working Group of the Whole, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 64/86, will meet during the time allocated for the consideration of items 5, 6, 9 and 16. The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee will resume its consideration of those items on Friday, 19 February, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group of the Whole.

^b The Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 64/86, will meet during the time allocated for the consideration of item 11. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday, 18 February, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.

^c The Working Group on Near-Earth Objects, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 64/86, will meet during the time allocated for the consideration of item 12. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday, 18 February, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.