



# General Assembly

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## Committee on the Peaceful

### Uses of Outer Space

Legal Subcommittee

Forty-fifth session

Vienna, 3-13 April 2006

## Provisional agenda<sup>1</sup>

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of the Chairman.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Statement by the Chairman.
5. General exchange of views.
6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space.
7. Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law.
8. Matters relating to:
  - (a) The definition and delimitation of outer space;
  - (b) The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.

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<sup>1</sup> In paragraph 4 of its resolution 60/99 of 8 December 2005, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-fifth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries, should consider items 5, 6, 7 and 8 as regular items of the agenda, should consider items 9 and 10 as single issues and items for discussion and should consider item 11 in accordance with the workplan adopted by the Committee. In paragraph 5 of the same resolution, the Assembly noted that the Subcommittee, at its forty-fifth session, would submit proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee at its forty-sixth session, in 2007.

9. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.
10. Examination and review of the developments concerning the draft protocol on matters specific to space assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment.
11. Practice of States and international organizations in registering space objects.
12. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its forty-sixth session.

## **Annotations**

### **2. Election of the Chairman**

In accordance with the agreement reached by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its forty-sixth session on the measures relating to the future composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies,<sup>2</sup> and pursuant to the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies,<sup>3</sup> the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States nominated Raimundo González Aninat (Chile) for the office of Chair of the Legal Subcommittee for the period 2006-2007.

In paragraphs 56 and 57 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee should elect its Chairman and noted that the Committee, at its forty-ninth session, would endorse the election.

### **6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space**

In paragraph 6 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly noted that the Legal Subcommittee would reconvene its Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space and review the need to extend the mandate of the Working Group beyond the forty-fifth session of the Subcommittee.

At its fortieth session, in 2001, the Legal Subcommittee agreed that the topics addressed in the discussions of the Working Group would include the status of the treaties, the review of their implementation and obstacles to their universal acceptance, as well as the promotion of space law, especially through the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (A/AC.105/763 and Corr.1, para. 118). At its forty-first session, in 2002, the Subcommittee agreed that the Working Group would review any new, similar issues that might be raised in discussions in the Working Group, provided that those issues fell within its existing mandate (A/AC.105/787, paras. 138 and 140).

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<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/58/20)*, annex II, paras. 4-9.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/52/20)*, annex I; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/58/20)*, annex II, appendix III.

**7. Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law**

In the discussion of this item, member States may bring to the attention of the Legal Subcommittee any information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law. In accordance with the agreement reached at the forty-eighth session of the Committee, international organizations were invited to report to the Subcommittee on their activities.<sup>4</sup>

**8. Matters relating to:****(a) The definition and delimitation of outer space****(b) The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union**

In paragraph 7 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly noted that the Legal Subcommittee would reconvene its Working Group on this item only to consider matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space.

**11. Practice of States and international organizations in registering space objects**

In paragraph 8 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on the Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects in accordance with the workplan adopted by the Committee at its forty-sixth session, in 2003. In accordance with that plan, the working group would, in 2006, identify common practices and draft recommendations for enhancing adherence to the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex).

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<sup>4</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/60/20 and Corr.1), para. 197

## Annex

### Organization of work

1. At its forty-fourth session, in 2005, the Legal Subcommittee agreed that a flexible organization of work should continue to serve as the basis for organizing its work with a view to making fuller use of the conference services available (A/AC.105/850, para. 10). The work of the Subcommittee has been scheduled to afford the Working Groups that will be reconvened under items 6, 8 (a) and 11 the maximum amount of time available.
2. At the close of the afternoon meeting on 3 April 2006, a symposium entitled “Legal aspects of disaster management and the contribution of the law of outer space”, sponsored by the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law, will be held.
3. An indicative schedule of work is provided below.

### Indicative schedule of work<sup>a</sup>

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
<b>Week of 3-7 April 2006</b>		
Monday, 3 April	Item 1. Opening of the session Item 2. Election of the Chairman Item 3. Adoption of the agenda Item 4. Statement by the Chairman Item 5. General exchange of views	Item 5. General exchange of views Symposium: Legal aspects of disaster management and the contribution of the law of outer space
Tuesday, 4 April	Item 5. General exchange of views Item 6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space <sup>b</sup>	Item 5. General exchange of views Item 6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space <sup>b</sup>
Wednesday, 5 April	Item 6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space <sup>b</sup> Item 10. Examination and review of the developments concerning the draft protocol on matters specific to space assets	Item 6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space <sup>b</sup> Item 10. Examination and review of the developments concerning the draft protocol on matters specific to space assets
Thursday, 6 April	Item 8 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space <sup>c</sup> Item 8 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit Item 10. Examination and review of the developments concerning the draft protocol on matters specific to space assets	Item 8 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space <sup>c</sup> Item 8 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit Item 10. Examination and review of the developments concerning the draft protocol on matters specific to space assets

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Friday, 7 April	Item 7. Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law Item 8 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space <sup>c</sup> Item 8 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit	Item 7. Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law Item 8 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space <sup>c</sup> Item 8 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit
<b>Week of 10-13 April 2006</b>		
Monday, 10 April	Item 7. Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law Item 9. Nuclear power sources	Item 7. Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law Item 9. Nuclear power sources Item 11. Practice in registering space objects <sup>d</sup>
Tuesday, 11 April	Item 11. Practice in registering space objects <sup>d</sup> Item 12. Proposals to the Committee for new agenda items	Item 11. Practice in registering space objects <sup>d</sup> Item 12. Proposals to the Committee for new agenda items
Wednesday, 12 April	Item 11. Practice in registering space objects <sup>d</sup> Item 12. Proposals to the Committee for new agenda items	Item 12. Proposals to the Committee for new agenda items Adoption of the report of the Working Group on agenda item 6 Adoption of the report of the Working Group on agenda item 8 (a) Adoption of the report of the Working Group on agenda item 11
Thursday, 13 April	Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee	Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee

### Notes

- <sup>a</sup> At its thirty-eighth session, in 1995, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed that the practice of allocating specific agenda items to particular meetings at a session should be ended and that, to assist in their planning, 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)).
- <sup>b</sup> The Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, will meet during the time allocated for the consideration of item 6. The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 6 on Wednesday, 12 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.
- <sup>c</sup> The Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, will meet during the time allocated for the consideration of item 8 (a). The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 8 (a) on Wednesday, 12 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.
- <sup>d</sup> The Working Group on the Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, will meet during the time allocated for the consideration of item 11. The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 11 on Wednesday, 12 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.