



General Assembly

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**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Legal Subcommittee
Fifty-second session
Vienna, 8-19 April 2013**

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Statement by the Chair.
3. General exchange of views.
4. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space.
5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law.
6. 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.
7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.
8. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.
9. Examination and review of the developments concerning the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Space Assets.
10. Capacity-building in space law.
11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

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Please recycle The recycling symbol, consisting of three chasing arrows forming a triangle.

12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.
13. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-third session.

Annotations*

3. General exchange of views

As a general rule, statements under this agenda item should not exceed 10 minutes in length (see A/66/20, para. 298).

4. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space

In paragraph 4 of its resolution 67/113, the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-second session, should reconvene its Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space.

During the fifty-first session of the Subcommittee, in 2012, the Working Group agreed that States members of the Committee should again be invited to provide comments on and responses to the questions in the questionnaire prepared by the Chair at that session (A/AC.105/C.2/2012/CRP.10). The Working Group also agreed that international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with permanent observer status with the Committee should also be invited to provide comments (A/AC.105/1003, annex I, para. 10). The replies received by the Secretariat are made available in a conference room paper.

The Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, agreed that at its fifty-second session it would review the need to extend the mandate of the Working Group beyond that session (A/AC.105/1003, para. 182).

5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law

During the discussion of item 5, member States may bring to the attention of the Legal Subcommittee any information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing information on activities of international organizations relating to space law (A/AC.105/C.2/103).

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

6. 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 4 of its resolution 67/113, the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-second session, should reconvene its Working Group on Matters Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space.

At its thirty-ninth session, in 2000, the Subcommittee agreed that the Working Group would consider only matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space (A/AC.105/738, para. 108).

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing replies received from Member States to questions on the definition and delimitation of outer space (A/AC.105/889/Add.11), a note by the Secretariat containing replies from Member States on national legislation and practice relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space (A/AC.105/865/Add.12) and a note by the Secretariat containing replies from Member States and permanent observers to the Committee to questions on suborbital flights for scientific missions and/or human transportation (A/AC.105/1039).

7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space

The Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, agreed to include the item on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space as a regular item on its agenda (A/AC.105/1003, para. 177).

The Committee, at its fifty-fifth session, endorsed the decisions of the Subcommittee as contained in A/AC.105/1003, paragraphs 163, 164 and 170, and agreed that the report of the Working Group on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan (A/AC.105/C.2/101) constituted an important source of information for States developing national space-related regulatory frameworks.

The Committee took note of the revised text of the recommendations on national space legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space reflecting revisions by member States during its present session, contained in A/AC.105/2012/CRP.21, and noted that the Chair of the Working Group on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space would continue to consult with member States on the text of the recommendations in the intersessional period.

The Committee agreed that the text, as revised on the basis of those consultations, should be submitted, in the six official languages of the United Nations, to the Subcommittee at its fifty-second session under the regular item entitled "National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space", for agreement, and that the Subcommittee should also consider the form in which the agreed text was to be submitted to the General Assembly for adoption at its sixty-eighth session (A/67/20, para. 252).

The Subcommittee will have before it a working paper by the Chair of the Working Group on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space (A/AC.105/C.2/L.289), containing a revised text of the recommendations.

8. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space

The Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, agreed that it was necessary to continue examining the issue of review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space and that the item should remain on its agenda (A/AC.105/1003, para. 104).

9. Examination and review of the developments concerning the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Space Assets

The Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, agreed that the item should remain as a single item for discussion on the agenda at its fifty-second session (A/AC.105/1003, para. 116).

10. Capacity-building in space law

The Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, recommended that member States and permanent observers of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space inform the Subcommittee, at its fifty-second session, of any action taken or planned at the national, regional or international level to build capacity in space law (A/AC.105/1003, para. 135).

The Subcommittee will have before it the report of the United Nations/Argentina Workshop on Space Law, held in Buenos Aires from 5 to 8 November 2012 (A/AC.105/1037).

11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

The Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, noted that a general exchange of information on national mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures would assist States in understanding the different approaches, including development of national regulatory frameworks, that States had taken to mitigate and prevent the increase in space debris (A/AC.105/1003, para. 140).

The Subcommittee urged States and organizations to continue to implement the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee and to study the experience of States that had already established national mechanisms governing space debris mitigation (A/AC.105/1003, para. 158).

12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space

The Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, agreed to include the item on review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and

use of outer space as an item under a five-year workplan (A/AC.105/1003, para. 179). According to the workplan, in 2013, the Subcommittee would conduct an exchange of information on the range of existing international space cooperation mechanisms. Member States and permanent observers would be invited to provide information prior to the session of the Legal Subcommittee and to make special presentations on the range of bilateral and multilateral mechanisms they utilize for space cooperation.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing replies received by the Secretariat on review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space (A/AC.105/C.2/102).

13. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-third session

At its fifty-second session, the Legal Subcommittee will submit its proposal to the Committee for the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Subcommittee.

Symposium

At its fifty-fifth session, in 2012, the Committee agreed that the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law should be invited to organize a symposium on space law during the fifty-second session of the Subcommittee (A/67/20, para. 258). A symposium on the theme "The UNIDROIT Space Protocol" will be held on the afternoon of 8 April 2013.

Organizational matters

At its fifty-fourth session, in 2011, the Committee endorsed the recommendations made by the Legal Subcommittee at its fiftieth session (A/AC.105/990, paras. 194 and 196-198) and by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-eighth session (A/AC.105/987, paras. 216-220) concerning the improvement and optimization of methods of work of those subsidiary bodies.

The Committee agreed to apply to the organization of its work the same methods as proposed by the Scientific and Technical and Legal Subcommittees. In that regard, the Committee agreed that (A/66/20, para. 298):

- (a) Maximum flexibility should be applied in the scheduling of items;
- (b) As a general rule, statements should not exceed 10 minutes, and scientific and technical presentations should be closely linked to the agenda items of the Committee and should not exceed 15 minutes in duration. The Chair should remind delegations in case of time being exceeded, as appropriate;
- (c) Member States and observers of the Committee should communicate to the Secretariat their wish to make scientific and technical presentations, and the item under which the presentation is to be made, before the start of the session, in order to optimize the plan of work for the session. A list of presentations should be made available to all delegations on the first day of the session, for possible updating, and should be closed by the adjournment of the last plenary meeting of that day. Speaking notes for such presentations should be provided to facilitate simultaneous interpretation.

Annex

Organization of work

1. The work of the Subcommittee has been scheduled so as to afford the working groups that will be reconvened under items 4 and 6 (a) the maximum amount of time available.
2. As requested by the Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, the consideration by the Subcommittee of its agenda item on proposals to the Committee on new items to be considered by the Subcommittee at its next session, has been advanced in order to allow adequate time for substantive discussions on organizational matters (A/AC.105/1003, para. 206).
3. In order to enable the Subcommittee to commence its consideration of all items of the agenda in a timely and balanced manner, the discussion of the item entitled "General exchange of views" has been scheduled for an adequate period of time. Statements to be made under that item should be no longer than 10 minutes. The number of statements to be made under that item at each meeting may be limited, as necessary, in order to allow sufficient time for other agenda items to be considered as planned for each meeting.
4. An indicative schedule of work is provided below. The indicative schedule of work is a general guide to the dates and times when items will be addressed during the session. The consideration of any item may be moved forward, extended or delayed, depending on the requirements of the Subcommittee and any organizational constraints that may arise in the course of the session.

Indicative schedule of work*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Week of 8-12 April 2012		
Monday, 8 April	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda Item 2. Statement by the Chair Item 3. General exchange of views	Symposium organized by the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law on the theme "The UNIDROIT Space Protocol"

* 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 (A/50/20, para. 169 (b)).

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Tuesday, 9 April	<p>Item 3. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 4. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space^a</p> <p>Item 9. Examination and review of the developments concerning the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Space Assets</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>	<p>Item 3. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 4. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space^a</p> <p>Item 9. Examination and review of the developments concerning the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Space Assets</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>
Wednesday, 10 April	<p>Item 3. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 4. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space^a</p> <p>Item 9. Examination and review of the developments concerning the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Space Assets</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>	<p>Item 3. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 4. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space^a</p> <p>Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space^b</p> <p>Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>
Thursday, 11 April	<p>Item 3. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space^b</p> <p>Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit</p> <p>Item 8. Nuclear power sources</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>	<p>Item 3. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space^b</p> <p>Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit</p> <p>Item 8. Nuclear power sources</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>
Friday, 12 April	<p>Item 3. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space^b</p> <p>Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit</p> <p>Item 8. Nuclear power sources</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>	<p>Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Item 11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee</p> <p>Item 13. Proposals to the Committee on new items for consideration by the Subcommittee</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Week of 15-19 April 2013		
Monday, 15 April	<p>Item 3. General exchange of views</p> <p>Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Item 11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>	<p>Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Item 11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee</p> <p>Item 12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>
Tuesday, 16 April	<p>Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Item 11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee</p> <p>Item 12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>	<p>Item 5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law</p> <p>Item 10. Capacity-building in space law</p> <p>Item 12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>
Wednesday, 17 April	<p>Item 5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law</p> <p>Item 10. Capacity-building in space law</p> <p>Item 12. Review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>	<p>Item 5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law</p> <p>Item 10. Capacity-building in space law</p> <p>Item 13. Proposals to the Committee on new items for consideration by the Subcommittee</p> <p>Technical presentations</p>

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Thursday, 18 April	Item 13. Proposals to the Committee on new items for consideration by the Subcommittee Adoption of the report of the Working Group on agenda item 4 ^a Technical presentations	Item 13. Proposals to the Committee on new items for consideration by the Subcommittee Adoption of the report of the Working Group on agenda item 6 (a) ^b Technical presentations
Friday, 19 April	Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee	Adoption of the report of the Legal Subcommittee

^a The Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 67/113, will meet during the time allocated for the consideration of item 4. The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 4 on Thursday, 18 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.

^b The Working Group on Matters Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 67/113, will meet during the time allocated for the consideration of item 6 (a). The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 6 (a) on Thursday, 18 April, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.