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English only

**Committee on the Peaceful Uses
of Outer Space**

Fifty-sixth session

Vienna, 12-21 June 2013

**Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
on its fiftieth session**

**Development of the report and the guidelines of the
Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer
Space Activities**

Note by the Chair of the Working Group

1. The Terms of Reference of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities (A/66/20, Annex II, para. 12) specify that the Working Group will prepare a report on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities containing a consolidated set of current practices and operating procedures, technical standards and policies associated with the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, including, inter alia, the safe conduct of space activities.
2. The expert groups established by the Working Group have proved to be valuable deliberative forums for the consideration of related topics. The expert groups are developing candidate guidelines for consideration by the Working Group. The emerging proposed guidelines have been collected into document A/AC.105/1041, which is available at the current session of the Committee. The content of the Working Group report will be informed by the reports of the individual expert groups and their candidate guidelines.
3. The documents produced by the expert groups necessarily reflect the thematic clustering of topics under their consideration. The Chairman of the Working Group proposes that the report of the Working Group should not be structured along similar thematic lines, but rather in a manner that will facilitate the implementation of the guidelines by all space actors. In this approach, the final report would not be a simple collection of the individual expert group reports, but rather a consolidation of the information contained therein into a form that may be most useful to provide guidance for Governments and space actors. The individual expert group reports



will have archival value and will provide valuable background information to place into a thematic context the guidelines in the Working Group report.

4. A proposed outline of the Working Group report was circulated in the Annex to conference room paper 10 during the fiftieth session of Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in February 2013 (A/AC.105/C.1/2013/CRP.10). The Annex of the present conference room paper contains a revised version of the draft report outline and takes into account the comments received to date.

Annex

Draft outline for the report of the Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities

Part I: The context for guidelines to promote long-term sustainability of outer space activities

1. Background

- A general introduction to the topic of long-term sustainability of outer space activities
- The process followed in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to arrive at this report and set of guidelines

2. Rationale

- Why guidelines for long-term sustainability are needed
- The purpose of the publication of guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

3. Scope/Application

- The proposed guidelines cover all space activities
- Various guidelines for State and non-State entities
- Guidelines are voluntary

4. Objective

- Safety of space activities
- Long-term sustainability of space activities

Part II: Guidelines for the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities

5. Guidance for Governments

- (a) Policy
- (b) Regulatory mechanisms
- (c) International cooperation

6. Guidance for space actors and other actors in the space arena

- (a) Scientific and Technical
- (b) Management

Part III: Implementation and updating

8. Implementation

9. Updates

Glossary of terms
