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Chapter II

Addendum

C. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-fourth session

1. The Committee took note with appreciation of the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-fourth session (A/AC.105/890), which contained the results of its deliberations on the items assigned to it by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/111 of 14 December 2006.
2. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the outgoing Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, B. N. Suresh (India) for his able leadership and contributions. The Committee also expressed its appreciation to Mazlan Othman (Malaysia) for her able leadership during the forty-fourth session of the Subcommittee.
3. At the 566th meeting of the Committee, on 6 June, the Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee made a statement on the work of the Subcommittee at its forty-fourth session.
4. The representatives of Algeria, Austria, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements under this item. The representative of Switzerland also made a statement. During the general exchange of views, statements relating to this item were also made by representatives of other member States.



5. The Committee heard the following presentations under this agenda item:
 - (a) “Observation and surveillance of NEOs” by Sergiy Gusyev (Ukraine);
 - (b) “Use of SKAKO (automatic system of control and analysis of outer space) for the observation of space debris”, by Sergiy Gusyev (Ukraine);
 - (c) “Space disposal of nuclear waste”, by Oleg Ventskovskiy (Ukraine);
 - (d) “Yuzhnoye Design Office technologies in national and international space programmes”, by Oleg Ventskovskiy (Ukraine);
 - (e) “Colombian Space Commission structure, main achievements and future plans”, by Iván Darío Gomez-Guzman (Colombian Space Commission);
 - (f) “Space conferences/FIDAE”, by Christian Gomez (Chile).
6. The Committee welcomed the special presentations made before the Subcommittee on various topics and noted that such presentations provided complementary technical content for the deliberations of the Subcommittee, timely and useful information on new programmes and developments in the space community and illustrative examples of space technology.
7. The Committee took note with interest of the report of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities on its twenty-seventh session (A/AC.105/885) and the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2007-2008 (A/AC.105/886).

1. United Nations Programme on Space Applications

(a) Activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

8. The Expert on Space Applications briefed the Committee on the overall strategy for the implementation of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications.
9. The Committee noted the priority thematic areas of the Programme, as referred to in the report of the Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/874, para. 5).
10. The Committee took note of the activities of the Programme carried out in 2006, as set out in the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, paras. 37-40) and in the report of the Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/874, para. 55 and annex I). The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Office for Outer Space Affairs for the manner in which the activities of the Programme had been implemented with the limited funds available. The Committee also expressed its appreciation to the Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that had sponsored those activities. The Committee noted with satisfaction that further progress was being made in the implementation of the activities of the Programme for 2007, as set out in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, para. 41).
11. The Committee noted that, in order to avoid duplication of efforts between the activities of SPIDER and those in the thematic area of disaster management of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, the Programme took the approach of “integrated space technology applications” in which the Programme

integrated disaster management with other thematic areas such as natural resource management and environmental monitoring, tele-education and telemedicine, and basic space science. The Committee further noted that it was necessary for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications to continue to include the thematic area of disaster management in order to ensure the integrity of the Programme's overall efforts.

12. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Programme was helping developing countries and countries with economies in transition to participate in and benefit from the space activities being carried out in implementing various recommendations of UNISPACE III.

13. The Committee noted that the Office for Outer Space Affairs was fully aware of the increasing use of micro- and nanotechnologies, which had the potential to increase reliability and reduce power consumption and volume requirements, thereby reducing maintenance efforts and contributing to lowering costs. It noted that the United Nations/Russian Federation/European Space Agency Workshop on the Use of Microsatellite Technologies for Monitoring the Environment and Its Impact on Human Health, to be held from 3 to 7 September 2007, would discuss the application of micro- and nanotechnologies.

14. The Committee once again expressed its concern that the financial resources available for the Programme remained limited and appealed to the donor community to support the Programme through voluntary contributions. The Committee held the view that the limited resources available to the United Nations should be focused on activities of the highest priority; it noted that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications was a priority activity of the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

(i) *Conferences, training courses and workshops of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications*

15. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Government of Morocco for co-sponsoring and hosting the activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications held in April 2007 (A/AC.105/890, para. 41 (a)).

16. The Committee endorsed the workshops, training courses, symposiums and expert meetings planned for the remaining part of 2007, and expressed its appreciation to Argentina, Austria, India, Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Sudan and Viet Nam, as well as to the European Space Agency (ESA) and the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), for co-sponsoring, hosting and supporting those activities (A/AC.105/890, para. 41 (b)-(j)).

17. The Committee endorsed the programme of workshops, training courses, symposiums and conferences planned to be held in 2008 for the benefit of developing countries, as follows:

(a) Three workshops on integrated applications of space technologies for disaster mitigation, environmental monitoring and natural resources protection, which would also address various issues related to the United Nations global agendas for development;

(b) Two workshops on the use of global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) for integrated applications;

- (c) One training course on the satellite-aided search and rescue system;
- (d) One United Nations/IAF workshop;
- (e) One workshop on space law;
- (f) One workshop on basic space science;
- (g) Two workshops on tele-health.

18. The Committee noted with appreciation that, since its forty-ninth session, additional resources for 2008 had been offered by various Member States and organizations.

19. The Committee noted with appreciation that the host countries of the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, were providing significant financial and in-kind support to the centres.

(ii) *Long-term fellowships for in-depth training*

20. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Government of Italy, which, through the Politecnico di Torino and the Istituto Superiore Mario Boella and with the collaboration of the Istituto Elettrotecnico Nazionale Galileo Ferraris, had provided five 12-month fellowships for postgraduate studies in GNSS and related applications.

21. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the National Commission on Space Activities (CONAE) of Argentina for providing instructors, computer facilities and fellowships for a six-week training course at the Advanced School for Training in Landscape Epidemiology of the Mario Gulich Institute for Advanced Space Studies in Córdoba, Argentina. The fellowship programme was offered as a follow-up to the United Nations/European Space Agency/Argentina Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Human Health, which was held in 2005, and provided training on the theory and practice of the use of satellite images, geographical information systems (GIS) and the statistical techniques most commonly used in landscape epidemiology to 20 representatives from the Latin America and the Caribbean region. The Office for Outer Space Affairs defrayed the cost of air travel of participants.

22. The Committee noted that it was important to increase opportunities for in-depth education in all areas of space science, technology and applications through long-term fellowships and urged Member States to make such opportunities available at their relevant institutions.

(iii) *Technical advisory services*

23. The Committee noted with appreciation the technical advisory services provided under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications in support of activities and projects promoting regional cooperation in space applications, as referred to in the report of the Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/874, paras. 36-43).

(b) International Space Information Service

24. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the publication entitled *Highlights in Space 2006*¹ had been issued.

25. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Secretariat had continued to enhance the International Space Information Service and the improved and enhanced website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs (www.unoosa.org). The Committee also noted with satisfaction that the Secretariat was maintaining a website on the coordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system (www.uncosa.unvienna.org).

(c) Regional and interregional cooperation

26. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the United Nations Programme on Space Applications continued to emphasize cooperation with Member States at the regional and global levels, aimed at supporting the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations. In its resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the General Assembly had endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that those centres be established on the basis of affiliation to the United Nations as early as possible. The Committee noted that all the regional centres had entered into an affiliation agreement with the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

27. The Committee also noted that the General Assembly, in its resolution 61/111, had agreed that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on their activities on an annual basis.

28. The Committee noted that the highlights of the activities of the regional centres supported under the Programme in 2006 and planned activities for 2007 and 2008 were included in the report of the Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/874, annex III).

29. The Committee noted that the Government of India had continuously provided strong support to the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific since its inception in 1995, including making the appropriate facilities and expertise available to it through the Indian Space Research Organisation and Department of Space and noted with satisfaction that the Centre had celebrated its tenth anniversary in 2005. The Committee noted that, to date, the Centre had conducted 26 nine-month postgraduate courses, 11 on remote sensing and GIS, five each on satellite communications, satellite meteorology and global climate, and space and atmospheric science. These programmes had benefited some 708 participants from a total of 30 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. A total of 26 participants from 16 countries outside the Asia-Pacific region had also benefited. Of these 734 participants, 82 had received Master of Technology degrees. The Centre had also conducted 18 short courses and workshops in the previous 10 years. It had held the twelfth meeting of its Governing Board on 27 April 2007 and the ninth meeting of its Technical Advisory Committee on 25 April 2007. After having completed more than a decade of educational activities, the Centre was set to achieve the status of international centre of excellence in training, education and research.

¹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.I.9.

30. The Committee noted that the campuses in Brazil and Mexico of the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Latin America and the Caribbean had started organizing nine-month postgraduate courses in 2003. The Centre was supported by the Governments of Brazil and Mexico. The campus in Brazil was benefiting from the expertise and laboratory and classroom facilities made available to it by the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) of Brazil. Similar high-quality facilities had been made available on the campus in Mexico, which was supported by the National Institute of Astrophysics, Optics and Electronics of Mexico. The campus in Brazil had already conducted four nine-month postgraduate courses on remote sensing and GIS. The Centre had further conducted six short courses and workshops since its inauguration. It was noted that, in 2006, the meeting of the Governing Board of the Centre had reinforced the terms of the agreement for the establishment of the Centre with respect to the adherence of other States in Latin America and the Caribbean to the agreement.

31. The Committee noted that the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology—in French Language had been organizing nine-month postgraduate courses since its inauguration in 1998. Based in Rabat, the Centre was supported by the Government of Morocco and important national institutions such as the Royal Centre for Remote Sensing, the Mohammadia Engineering School, the Hassan II Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine, the National Institute of Telecommunications and the National Directorate of Meteorology. The Committee noted that the Centre had already conducted nine nine-month postgraduate courses on remote sensing and GIS, satellite communications, and satellite meteorology and global climate. Since its inauguration, the Centre had organized 14 short workshops and conferences.

32. The Committee noted that the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education—in English Language had, since its inauguration in 1998, organized eight nine-month postgraduate courses, on remote sensing and GIS, satellite meteorology and global climate, satellite communications, and space and atmospheric science. It had also conducted seven short activities. In 2006, 47 participants had completed the training programme offered by the Centre. Also in 2006, the Centre had become a national focal point for the Nigerian outreach programme on space education, targeting students in secondary schools. Located at Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, the Centre was strongly supported by the National Space Research and Development Agency of Nigeria. The director of the Centre was seeking support from Governments of member States in Africa in order to strengthen the operation of the Centre for the benefit of the region.

33. The Committee noted that the China National Space Administration (CNSA), in cooperation with the secretariat of the Asia-Pacific Multilateral Cooperation in Space Technology and Applications (AP-MCSTA), had organized its first postgraduate course on space technology and applications in July 2006. The course had been organized and conducted by Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics (BUAA). The Government of China and the secretariat of AP-MCSTA had together provided full or partial scholarships for 18 participants from developing countries in the region of Asia and the Pacific. The course consisted of classroom learning at BUAA for nine months and subsequent pilot project research in the home countries of the participants for 6-12 months.

34. The Committee noted that the Office for Outer Space Affairs had provided technical and financial support to the Space Conference of the Americas, hosted by the Government of Costa Rica in 1990, by the Government of Chile in 1993, by the Government of Uruguay in 1996, by the Government of Colombia in 2002 and by the Government of Ecuador in 2006.

35. The Committee noted that the pro tempore secretariat of the Fifth Space Conference of the Americas, hosted by Ecuador, had expressed its appreciation for the advisory support in the planning and conduct of the Conference that had been provided by the International Group of Experts of the Space Conferences of the Americas, comprised of R. González, C. Rogriguez-Brianza, M. Fea, C. Arévalo, B. Morejón, V. Canuto and S. Camacho. The Committee urged the Group of Experts to provide support for the implementation of the plan of action of the Conference, as well as for the organization of the Sixth Space Conference of the Americas, to be held in 2009.

36. The Committee noted with satisfaction that, since 2005, the United Nations Programme on Space Applications had oriented its activities to include supporting low-cost or no-cost pilot projects that could contribute to sustainable development at the national, regional and international levels. The increased focus of the Programme on such projects had yielded tangible results (A/AC.105/874, paras. 45-54).

37. The Committee noted that, within its limited budget and with voluntary contributions from each participating entity, the Programme implemented pilot projects in various thematic areas such as developing early warning strategies for disaster management using space technologies; establishing base maps for certain types of natural disaster; establishing national data-sharing policies; providing capacity-building, training and education; developing methodologies for predicting and mitigating infectious diseases; assessing communication system network configurations; conducting needs assessments for implementing national space application programmes; and developing the Geo Occupancy Analyser Tool (GOAT).

38. The Committee noted that that the Office for Outer Space Affairs had endeavoured to increase its support for pilot projects of national or regional significance in developing countries. The Office would continue these efforts with the voluntary support of the participating entities, based on the principle that funds were not transferred among the parties to a project. The Office would also place emphasis on the sustainability of projects with a view to applying space technologies to contribute to economic and social growth.

39. The Committee further noted that the Office would welcome offers of co-sponsorship for future projects that benefited developing countries.

(d) International Satellite System for Search and Rescue

40. The Committee recalled that, at its forty-fourth session, it had agreed that a report on the activities of the International Satellite System for Search and Rescue (COSPAS-SARSAT) should be considered annually by the Committee as part of its

consideration of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and that member States should report on their activities regarding COSPAS-SARSAT.²

41. The Committee noted with satisfaction that COSPAS-SARSAT was using space technology to assist aviators and mariners in distress around the globe. Since becoming operational in 1982, COSPAS-SARSAT had introduced analogue and digital emergency beacons worldwide and had expanded its space segment to include ad hoc payloads on geostationary and low-Earth orbit satellites that currently provided alert signals.

42. The Committee noted with satisfaction that COSPAS-SARSAT currently had 38 member States, which offered seven polar-orbiting and five geostationary satellites that provided worldwide coverage for the search and rescue beacons. Since 1982, COSPAS-SARSAT had helped to save about 20,500 lives.

43. The Committee took note of the phasing-out of the beacons operating at 121.5 MHz, as of 1 February 2009. The Committee noted with satisfaction that outreach efforts were being undertaken to raise awareness of that programme change.

2. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment

44. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/111, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee had continued its consideration of matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under that agenda item, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, paras. 68-78).

45. The Committee stressed the important role of Earth observation satellite data in supporting activities in a number of key areas of sustainable development and emphasized, in that connection, the importance of providing non-discriminatory access to remote sensing data and to derived information at a reasonable cost and in a timely manner and the importance of building capacity in the use of remote sensing technology, in particular to meet the needs of developing countries.

46. The view was expressed that the free availability on the Internet of high-resolution imagery of sensitive areas was a point of concern due to strategic reasons. That delegation proposed that guidelines consistent with national policies should be developed to regulate the availability in the public domain of such sensitive data.

47. The Committee encouraged further international cooperation among member States in the use of remote sensing satellites, in particular by sharing experience and technologies through bilateral, regional and international collaborative projects.

3. Space debris

48. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/111, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee had continued its consideration of the agenda item on space debris, in accordance with the workplan

² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20 and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), para. 220.*

adopted at its thirty-eighth session (A/AC.105/761, para. 130) and amended at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex II, para. 6). The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee on space debris, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, paras. 79-101).

49. The Committee noted with great satisfaction that the space debris mitigation guidelines had been adopted by the Subcommittee at its 673rd meeting (A/AC.105/890, annex IV).

50. At its 572nd meeting, the Committee approved the space debris mitigation guidelines.

51. The Committee agreed that its successful approval of the voluntary guidelines for the mitigation of space debris would increase mutual understanding on acceptable activities in space and thus enhance stability in space and decrease the likelihood of friction and conflict.

52. Some delegations expressed the view that the creation of space debris, intentional or otherwise, could be avoided through implementation of the space debris mitigation guidelines approved by the Committee at its current session.

53. Some delegations expressed the view that a legally non-binding set of guidelines was not sufficient and would disadvantage developing countries. Those delegations were of the view that the issue of space debris should also be considered by the Legal Subcommittee, with a view to developing a binding legislative framework.

54. The view was expressed that the approval of voluntary guidelines should open access to data and information on all types of space debris.

55. Some delegations expressed the view that the Committee should consider submitting the space debris mitigation guidelines as a draft resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, in order to stress the importance of the guidelines and the continued effectiveness of the Committee in addressing major issues affecting long-term access to outer space and its use for peaceful purposes.

56. The Committee expressed its appreciation to Claudio Portelli (Italy) in his role as Chairman of the Working Group on Space Debris, which had developed the space debris mitigation guidelines approved by the Committee.

57. The Committee noted that some States had already implemented space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) Guidelines, with the aim of promoting space debris mitigation measures.

58. Some delegations expressed the view that, while the voluntary guidelines represented a significant advance, they would not cover all debris-producing situations and, accordingly, would need to be kept under consideration. Those delegations also expressed the view that efforts should continue to be made to develop the technical ability to begin removing existing space debris from its orbit in order to halt the decline of the space environment.

4. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

59. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/111, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee had continued its consideration of the item on the use of nuclear power sources (NPS) in outer space. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee on the use of nuclear power sources in outer space, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, paras. 102-114).

60. The Committee noted that the Subcommittee, at its forty-fourth session, had reconvened its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space under the chairmanship of Sam A. Harbison (United Kingdom). The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Working Group had made significant progress and had carried out successful and detailed work in identifying and developing an international technically based framework of goals and recommendations for the safety of planned and currently foreseeable nuclear power source applications in outer space.

61. The Committee noted that, during the forty-fourth session of the Subcommittee, the Working Group had updated and finalized its report entitled "Development of an international technically based framework of goals and recommendations for the safety of planned and currently foreseeable nuclear power source applications in outer space" (A/AC.105/C.1/L.289/Rev.1).

62. The Committee endorsed the decision of the Subcommittee that, in order to prepare and publish the safety framework for NPS applications in outer space, a partnership be established between the Subcommittee and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) by means of a joint group of experts, consisting of representatives of the Subcommittee and of IAEA.

63. The Committee also endorsed the new workplan of the Working Group for the period 2007-2010 for the purpose of establishing a joint STSC/IAEA safety framework development activity for NPS applications in outer space.

64. Some delegations were of the view that serious consideration should always be given to the possible impact that missions carrying NPS on board could have on human life and the environment.

65. Some delegations noted with satisfaction the efforts of the Working Group to shorten the time frame for the accomplishment of its work.

5. Near-Earth objects

66. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/111, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee had considered an item on near-Earth objects under the three-year workplan amended at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex II). The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under that agenda item, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, paras. 115-125).

67. The Committee noted that the Subcommittee had established a Working Group on Near-Earth Objects for one year, under the chairmanship of Richard Tremayne-Smith (United Kingdom).

68. The Committee noted with satisfaction the work carried out by the Working Group and the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects and endorsed the new multi-year workplan for 2008-2010 (A/AC.105/890, annex III).

69. The view was expressed that the work of the Working Group on Near-Earth Objects could result in the proposal of international procedures to mitigate the threat of near-Earth objects for consideration by the Committee in the near future.

6. Space-system-based disaster management support [...]

7. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including, inter alia, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries

70. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/111, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee had considered the agenda item on the geostationary orbit and space communications as a single issue/item for discussion. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under that agenda item, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, paras. 159-167).

71. Some delegations reiterated the view that the geostationary orbit was a limited natural resource, which ran the risk of becoming saturated. Those delegations were of the view that, with the participation and cooperation of ITU, the exploitation of the geostationary orbit should be rationalized and made available to all countries, irrespective of their current technical capabilities, thus giving them the opportunity to have access to the geostationary orbit under equitable conditions, taking into account in particular the needs of developing countries and the geographical position of certain countries. Those delegations therefore considered that the item on the geostationary orbit should remain on the agenda of the Subcommittee for further discussion, with the purpose of continuing to analyse its technical and scientific characteristics.

8. International Heliophysical Year 2007

72. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/111, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee had considered an agenda item on the International Heliophysical Year 2007, under the three-year workplan adopted at the forty-second session of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/848, annex I). The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the agenda item, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, paras. 143-158).

73. The Committee noted with appreciation that the International Heliophysical Year 2007 was an international endeavour, with States from every region of the world hosting instrument arrays, providing scientific investigators or offering supporting space missions. The Committee also noted that the Year served to focus worldwide attention on the importance of international cooperation in research activities in the field of solar-terrestrial physics.

74. The Committee noted with satisfaction that, as part of the celebration of International Heliophysical Year, the official opening of the International Heliophysical Year 2007 worldwide campaign had taken place during the forty-fourth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, accompanied by the exhibition on the International Heliophysical Year 2007 at the United Nations Office at Vienna.

75. The Committee noted that, in celebration of the International Heliophysical Year, various activities would be conducted under the coordination of the National Institute of Aeronautics and Space of Indonesia. Those activities included research on solar physics and the relationship between the Earth and the Sun, and public outreach programmes and projects on geomagnetic observation and solar physics carried out in cooperation with other countries.

76. The Committee also noted that, as part of the celebration of International Heliophysical Year, the International School for Young Astronomers had been hosted by Malaysia in March 2007, placing particular focus on solar physics and the solar-terrestrial relationship.

77. The Committee also took note that the third United Nations/European Space Agency/National Aeronautics and Space Administration Workshop on Basic Space Science and the International Heliophysical Year 2007 was to be held in Tokyo from 18 to 22 June. The Workshop was to conduct basic study activities of the heliosphere, interplanetary space and the Earth's atmosphere and magnetosphere and raise awareness of space science in developing countries.

9. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-fifth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

78. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/111, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee had considered proposals for a draft provisional agenda for its forty-fifth session. The Subcommittee had endorsed the recommendations of its Working Group of the Whole concerning the draft provisional agenda for the forty-fifth session of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, paras. 168-171 and annex I).

79. The Committee welcomed the agreement of the Subcommittee on a new approach to scheduling the symposium organized by the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) and IAF and the industry symposium organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs aimed at strengthening the partnership with industry (A/AC.105/890, annex I, para. 24).

80. The Committee welcomed the agreement of the Subcommittee that the topic of the 2008 industry symposium should be "Space industry in emerging space nations". The Committee also endorsed the agreement of the Subcommittee that the symposium should be held during the first week of the forty-fifth session of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/890, annex I, para. 25).

81. On the basis of the deliberations of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-fourth session, the Committee agreed on the following draft provisional agenda for the forty-fifth session of the Subcommittee:

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

2. United Nations Programme on Space Applications.
 3. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III).
 4. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment.
 5. Space debris.
 6. Space-system-based disaster management support.
 7. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems.
 8. Items to be considered under workplans:
 - (a) Use of nuclear power sources in outer space;
(Work for 2008 as reflected in the multi-year workplan in the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-fourth session (A/AC.105/890, annex II, para. 7))
 - (b) Near-Earth objects;
(Work for 2008 as reflected in the multi-year workplan in the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-fourth session (A/AC.105/890, annex III, para. 7))
 - (c) International Heliophysical Year 2007.
(Work for 2008 as reflected in the multi-year workplan in the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex I, para. 22))
 9. Single issue/item for discussion: 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 space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries.
 10. Draft provisional agenda for the forty-sixth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, including identification of subjects to be dealt with as single issues/items for discussion or under multi-year workplans.
 11. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
82. The Committee agreed that the Subcommittee should consider issues related to SPIDER under the regular agenda item on space-system-based disaster management support.
83. The Committee agreed that the Subcommittee should consider issues related to ICG, the latest developments in the field of GNSS and new GNSS applications under the regular agenda item on recent developments in global navigation satellite systems.

84. The Committee endorsed the recommendation that the Subcommittee should reconvene the Working Group of the Whole (A/AC.105/890, annex I, para. 26) and that the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space and the Working Group on Near-Earth Objects should reconvene in accordance with their multi-year workplans (A/AC.105/890, annex I, paras. 20 and 21).
