

**General Assembly**

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

**National research on space debris, safety of space objects
with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating
to their collision with space debris**

Note by the Secretariat

Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	1-3	2
II. Replies received from Member States		2
Finland		2
Norway		2



I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 27 of its resolution 60/99 of 8 December 2005, 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, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, and called for the continuation of national research on the question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, and also considered that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and agreed that international cooperation was needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions.
2. At its forty-second session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee invited Member States and space agencies to continue to provide reports on research on space debris, safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating to their collision with space debris (A/AC.105/848, para. 89). In a note verbale dated 24 August 2005, the Secretary-General invited Governments to submit any information on the matter by 31 October 2005 so that that information could be submitted to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-third session.
3. The present document has been prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of information received from Member States.

II. Replies received from Member States

Finland

Finland's national space debris research activities and applications are described in detail in the note by the Secretariat of 3 December 2004 (AC.105/838).

Norway

1. The large Globus II radar located in northern Norway and operated by Norwegian defence personnel has an operational role in the tracking of space debris. After quality control in Norway, tracking data are sent to the United States of America for use in the space debris service provided by the United States Air Force Space Command.
2. Data acquired from Globus II are also used by Norway for its independent research and orbit analysis of space objects. In 2005, on contract for the European Space Agency, the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI) conducted a demonstration study on that.