
**United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on
Outer Space Activities**

Twenty-ninth session

Vienna, 4-6 March 2009

Item 2. Adoption of the Agenda.

Provisional agenda

**Opening meeting: Wednesday, 4 March 2009, 10:00 a.m.
 Vienna International Centre, Building C, Room VII**

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Coordination of plans and programmes and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas:
 - (a) Current and future plans of common interest, including consideration of how the activities of organizations of the United Nations system in the area of space science and technology and its applications relate to their mandated programmes;
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2009-2010;
 - (c) Preparation of a report on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation;
 - (d) Means of strengthening further inter-agency coordination and cooperation in space-related activities.
4. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
5. Inputs to the contribution of COPUOS to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for thematic cluster 2010-2011 and beyond.
6. Use of spatial data and UNGIWG/UNSDI-related activities.
7. Participation in the process of the Group on Earth Observations.
8. Operational framework and good practices in the use of space-based technologies for disaster risk reduction and emergency response.
9. Public outreach and information exchange to promote inter-agency cooperation.
10. Other matters.

Annotations*

- 1. Opening of the session**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda**
- 3. Coordination of plans and programmes and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas:**
 - (a) Current and future plans of common interest, including consideration of how the activities of organizations of the United Nations system in the area of space science and technology and its applications relate to their mandated programmes**

Participants will be invited to report on recent developments in space-related activities of their entities. Special consideration shall be given to activities that may be of interest to other United Nations entities participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting, such as opportunities for cooperation or needs for coordination. To the extent possible information submitted for inclusion in the annual report of the Secretary-General should not be repeated and presentations or statements should be limited to a maximum of ten minutes.

- (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2009-2010**

The purpose of the annual report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of space-related inter-agency cooperation and coordination among United Nations entities and to avoid the duplication of efforts in the use of space applications. The report is based on information submitted by United Nations entities, in accordance with the "Guidelines for preparation of submissions for the report of the Secretary-General on coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system" provided to the focal points of the Inter-Agency Meeting. The report will be finalized and approved and subsequently submitted for clearance to the Office of the Secretary-General.

- (c) Preparation of a report on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation**

At its twenty-eight session in 2008, the Meeting agreed that a report on the theme "Use of space technology for sustainable development in Africa" should be prepared by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in cooperation with ECA and in consultation with other United Nations entities for endorsement by the Meeting at its twenty-ninth session. The Meeting also agreed that the report should be presented to the third African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, in 2009. The report will be presented for endorsement by the Meeting and United Nations entities wishing to sponsor a report on specific themes for consideration by the Meeting in 2010 will be invited to make a proposal.

- (d) Means of strengthening further inter-agency coordination and cooperation in space-related activities**

The list of action items following the twenty-eighth session of the Meeting will be discussed (IAM/2009/CRP.3) and progress on the implementation will be reviewed.

Participants will be invited to discuss means of inter-agency cooperation in space related activities as well as ways to enhance the existing or establish new means of inter-agency cooperation.

* The annotations are not part of the agenda adopted by the Inter-Agency Meeting.

In its resolution 63/90 of 5 December 2008, the General Assembly welcomes the increased efforts to strengthen further the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities as the central United Nations mechanism for building partnerships and coordinating space-related activities within the framework of the ongoing reforms in the United Nations system to work in unison and deliver as one, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate fully in the work of the Inter-Agency Meeting (A/RES/63/90, para. 34).

In the same resolution, the General Assembly urges entities of the United Nations system, particularly those participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, to continue to examine, in cooperation with the Committee, how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration on the development agenda, particularly in the areas relating to, *inter alia*, food security and increasing opportunities for education (A/RES/63/90, para. 35).

The General Assembly further invites the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to continue to contribute to the work of the Committee [on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space] and to report to the Committee on the work conducted at its annual sessions (A/RES/63/90, para. 36).

The Meeting may wish to consider contributing to specific items on the agenda of the Committee, including space-based disaster management support, recent developments in global navigation satellites systems, space and society, space and water, and international cooperation in promoting the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development.

In its resolution 63/90 of 5 December 2008, the General Assembly notes with satisfaction that the open informal meetings, held in conjunction with the annual sessions of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities and in which representatives of member States and observers in the Committee participate, provide a constructive mechanism for an active dialogue between the entities of the United Nations system and member States and observers in the Committee.

Immediately following the conclusion of its present session on Friday afternoon, 6 March 2009, the Inter-Agency Meeting will hold its sixth open informal session on the theme “Space-related activities of United Nations entities in Africa”. The draft agenda has been prepared in consultation with the focal points of the Meeting (IAM/2009/CRP.6) for consideration by the Meeting.

4. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

At its 2008 and 2009 sessions, the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered further steps to implement the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III). Following these discussions, entities of the United Nations system have been invited to report on any activities contributing to the implementation of recommendations of UNISPACE III (Note Verbale CU 2007/160[†] and CU 2008/118[‡]). Replies were received from Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The Meeting will be informed about the status of the implementation of recommendations of UNISPACE III and will be invited to discuss further action by the Inter-Agency Meeting in view of implementing the plan of action contained in the report of the Committee on the implementation of the recommendations (A/59/174, sect. VI.B).

[†] <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/COPUOS/stsc/2008/noteverbale2.html>

[‡] <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/COPUOS/stsc/2009/noteverbale.html>

5. Inputs to the contribution of COPUOS to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for thematic cluster 2010-2011 and beyond.

To strengthen the link established between its work relating to the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) and the work being carried out by the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) agreed, at its fifty-first session in 2008, to continue contributing to the policy year of the two-year cycles of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission, and that member States and permanent observers of the Committee should be requested to provide inputs for the development of a concise document that would emphasize the benefits of the use of, and tools offered by, space science and technology and their applications for meeting the challenges being faced, in particular, by developing countries with regard to the issues to be addressed by the Commission on Sustainable Development in the period 2010-2011 (A/63/20, paras. 56-59).

The Working Group of the Whole of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee agreed that it should conduct a first review of the draft concise document to be prepared on the basis of the inputs received from member States and permanent observers of the Committee at its forty-sixth session in 2008 (A/AC.105/911, annex I, paras. 11 and 12).

The following issues will be the focus of the work of the Commission for the period 2010-2011: transport, chemicals, waste management, mining, and a ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns (A/59/174, para. 232).

Entities of the United Nations system have been invited to consider the contributions that could be made by space science and technology and their applications to one or more of the issues to be addressed by the Commission in 2010 and 2011 and to provide substantive inputs for inclusion in the concise document that will be reviewed by the Working Group of the Whole of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (Note Verbale CU 2008/118§).

The Meeting will be informed about the status of the contributions of COPUOS to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the thematic cluster 2010-2011 and discuss plans for its contributions in the years beyond.

6. Use of spatial data and UNGIWG/UNSDI-related activities.

At its twenty-eight session in 2008, the Meeting identified the reinforcement of “the contributions made by the United Nations entities to the implementation of the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure (UNSDI)” as one of the key issues for inter-agency coordination (A/AC.105/909, para. 14(b)).

The Meeting will be informed about the latest developments in the implementation of the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure (UNSDI).

At its fifty-second session in 2009, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, in accordance with its multi-year workplan under the agenda item “International cooperation in promoting the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development”, will evaluate the activities undertaken within the United Nations system that are directly related to the use of space-derived geospatial information for sustainable development and consider ways and means of highlighting the links existing among those activities and of giving them stronger international recognition. The Committee, in accordance with its multi-year workplan, would draft a report containing recommendations on ways and means of fostering international cooperation with a view to building up national infrastructure to use space-derived geospatial data (A/63/20, para 277).

§ <http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/COPUOS/stsc/2009/noteverbale.html>

The Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a summary of the discussions in 2007 and 2008 on this agenda item, for consideration at its fifty-second session, in 2009, and to include information on activities undertaken within the United Nations system that were directly related to the use of space-derived geospatial information for sustainable development (A/63/20, para 278). The Meeting will discuss contributions by United Nations entities to the summary.

7. Participation in the process of the Group on Earth Observations.

At its twenty-eight session in 2008, the Meeting identified the reinforcement of “the contributions made by United Nations entities to the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and making optimal use of the System’s benefits to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations” as one of the key issues for inter-agency coordination (A/AC.105/909, para. 14(d)).

Participants will be invited to discuss further action by the Inter-Agency Meeting on this agenda item, including ways to increase coordination of actions carried out by entities of the United Nations system within the context of GEO.

8. Operational framework and good practices in the use of space-based technologies for disaster risk reduction and emergency response.

At its twenty-eight session in 2008, the Meeting identified the enhancement of “the use of space-based assets in support of disaster management and making optimal use of opportunities, such as the Charter on Cooperation to Achieve the Coordinated Use of Space Facilities in the Event of Natural or Technological Disasters (International Charter “Space and Major Disasters”) and the new United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) programme” as one of the key issues for inter-agency coordination (A/AC.105/909, para. 14(c)).

9. Public outreach and information exchange to promote inter-agency cooperation

United Nations entities participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting are regularly requested to submit updated information on their space-related programmes for inclusion on the website dedicated to the coordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system, maintained by the Office for Outer Space Affairs**. They are also reminded to update their respective entries in the online directory of organizations†† and in the inventories database‡‡.

The Meeting will review the status of the website as well as other related online resources and will consider further means for public outreach and information exchange.

10. Other matters

(a) Future programme of work

Participants will be invited to agree on the agenda and schedule of the thirtieth session, hosted by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in Geneva, in 2010.

(b) Additional matters

Time permitting, additional matters that may come to the attention of the Inter-Agency Meeting will be discussed.

** <http://www.uncosa.unvienna.org/uncosa/en/index.html>

†† <http://www.uncosa.unvienna.org/uncosa/en/directory/index.html>

‡‡ <http://www.uncosa.unvienna.org/uncosa/inventories/index.html>

ANNEX

Indicative schedule of work

Wednesday, 4 March 2009, 10:00 – 13:00

- | | | |
|------------|-------|--|
| Item 1 | | Opening of the Session |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome address by the Director of UNOOSA |
| Item 2 | | Adoption of the agenda (IAM/2009/CRP.3) |
| Item 3 (a) | | Coordination of plans and programmes: current and future plans |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Briefing by the Secretary on the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies concerning inter-agency cooperation and coordination• Briefing by the participants on highlights of the activities of their organizations in view of promoting inter-agency cooperation and coordination (max. 10 min. each) |

Wednesday, 4 March 2009, 15:00-18:00

- | | | |
|------------|-------|--|
| Item 3 (b) | | Coordination of plans and programmes: Draft report of the Secretary-General |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalization of the draft report (IAM/2009/CRP.5) |
| Item 3(c) | | Coordination of plans and programmes: Preparation of a report on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Endorsement of the special report (IAM/2009/CRP.7) |

Thursday, 5 March 2009, 10:00-13:00

- | | | |
|-----------|-------|---|
| Item 3(d) | | Coordination of plans and programmes: Means of strengthening further inter-agency coordination and cooperation in space-related activities |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of the progress of implementation of the action items following the twenty-eighth session of the Meeting (IAM/2009/CRP.4)• Possible contributions to the consideration by the Committee and its subcommittees in 2008 of various agenda items: e.g. space-based disaster management support, space and society, space and water, and international cooperation in promoting the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development• Preparations for discussions with the Committee members during the open informal session (IAM/2009/CRP.6)• Discussion on any other measures to strengthen inter-agency coordination and cooperation |
| Item 4 | | Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Briefing by UNOOSA on the status of the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III, including the implementation of the Action Plan endorsed by the General Assembly during its five-year review of the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III |

- Item 5 Inputs to the contribution of COPUOS to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for thematic cluster 2010-2011 and beyond.
- (IAM/2009/CRP.8)

Thursday, 5 March, 15:00-18:00

- Item 6 Use of spatial data and UNGIWG/UNSDI-related activities.
- Briefing by UNOOSA on the work under the COPUOS agenda item "International cooperation in promoting the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development"
 - Briefing by UNGIWG Co-chairs on the status of UNSDI
- Item 7 Participation of the entities of the United Nations system in the process of the Group on Earth Observations.
- (IAM/2009/CRP.9)
- Item 8 Operational framework and good practices in the use of space-based technologies for disaster risk reduction and emergency response
- Item 9 Public outreach and information exchange to promote inter-agency cooperation
- Review of the status of the website dedicated to the coordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system, including the online directory of organizations and the online inventory of space-related resources
 - Consideration of further means for public outreach and information exchange.
- Item 10 Other matters
- Substantive items on the agenda of the thirtieth session, in 2010
 - Venue and time of the thirtieth session, in 2010
 - Any additional matters

Friday, 6 March, 10:00-13:00

Adoption of the report of the 2009 session of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities

Friday, 6 March, 15:00-18:00

Open Informal Session