



**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Legal Subcommittee
Fifty-sixth session
Vienna, 27 March-7 April 2017**

Draft report

Addendum

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

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 71/90, the Subcommittee considered agenda item 16, entitled “Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-seventh session”, as a regular item on the agenda. Under the item, the Subcommittee also considered matters related to the organization of work.
2. The representatives of Australia, Belgium, Chile, China, France, Greece, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Spain and the United States made statements under agenda item 16. During the general exchange of views, statements relating to the item were also made by representatives of other member States.
3. The Subcommittee agreed that five single issues/items for discussion, entitled “Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space”, “General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space”, “General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management”, “General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities” and “General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources”, should be retained on the agenda of the Subcommittee at its fifty-seventh session.
4. The Subcommittee agreed that a single issue/item for discussion should be retained on the agenda of the Subcommittee at its fifty-seventh session with the amended title, “General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee”.



5. The Subcommittee agreed that the following items be proposed to the Committee for inclusion in the agenda of the Subcommittee at its fifty-seventh session:

Regular items

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of the Chair
3. Statement by the Chair.
4. General exchange of views.
5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law.
6. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space.
7. 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.
8. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.
9. Capacity-building in space law.

Single issues/items for discussion

10. Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.
11. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
12. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space.
13. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management.
14. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities.
15. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.

New items

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

6. The view was expressed that any legal framework considered in connection with the agenda item "General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources" must include three essential points: that all States be able to benefit from the exploitation of space resources and that exploitation should not be reserved for a monopoly; that the exploitation of resources must be rational and sustainable; and that private and public investors should be protected by guarantees of legal certainty.

7. The view was expressed that consideration of the agenda item “General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee” should emphasize legal definitions and that under this item delegations should present their views on the legal aspects of the development and conduct of operations to remediate space debris.

8. The view was expressed that importance should be attached in the Subcommittee to both a careful legal analysis of the existing legal regime for outer space and the closing of lacunae in space law, bearing in mind that detailed discussions of truly universal mechanisms must take place under the aegis of the United Nations.

9. The Subcommittee agreed that IISL and ECSL should once again be invited to organize a symposium, to be held during the Subcommittee’s fifty-seventh session, taking into account the need for equitable geographical and gender representation in the symposium.

10. The Subcommittee noted that its fifty-seventh session had been tentatively scheduled to be held from 9 to 20 April 2018.
