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

Addendum

Chapter II

Recommendations and decisions

D. Space and sustainable development

1. The Committee considered the agenda item entitled “Space and sustainable development”, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [71/90](#).
2. The representatives of Egypt, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Oman, Pakistan, South Africa, Sudan, the United Kingdom and the United States made statements under the item. The observer for the Secure World Foundation also made a statement. During the general exchange of views, representatives of other member States also made statements relating to the item.
3. The Committee heard the following presentations under the item:
 - (a) “Monitoring-SG”, by the representative of Belarus;
 - (b) “Active and passive terminal networks in Burkina Faso: challenges and perspectives”, by the representative of Burkina Faso;
 - (c) “Operation and development of the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System”, by the representative of China;
 - (d) “Space for the Sustainable Development Goals”, by the representative of Japan;
 - (e) “DIAS-PF: global environmental information platform development and promotion programme: a contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals”, by the representative of Japan;
 - (f) “The Italian Space Agency’s commitment in promoting space knowledge and culture”, by the representative of Italy;
 - (g) “nSight-1, a reliable nanosatellite platform for remote sensing capacity-building”, by the representative of South Africa;



(h) “European Space Agency catalogue of activities supporting United Nations Sustainable Development Goals”, by the observer for ESA;

(i) “Next Generation perspectives”, by the observer for SGAC.

4. The Committee acknowledged the significant role of space science and technology applications in the implementation of the three global development frameworks adopted in 2015: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals; the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030; and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

5. The Committee noted the value of space technology and applications, as well as of space-derived data and information, to sustainable development, including by improving the formulation and subsequent implementation of policies and programmes of action relating to environmental protection, land and water management, marine and coastal ecosystems, health care, climate change, disaster risk reduction and emergency response, energy, infrastructure, navigation, seismic monitoring, natural resources management, snow and glaciers, biodiversity, agriculture and food security.

6. The Committee took note of the information provided by States on their actions and programmes aimed at increasing awareness and understanding in society of the applications of space science and technology for meeting development needs.

7. The Committee noted that the space community should gain a visible presence in the governmental processes pertaining to the development of implementation and monitoring methods relating to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, and agreed that the Office for Outer Space Affairs should explore various means to raise awareness of the benefits of space-based solutions within those processes.

8. The Committee noted the continued role played by the International Space Station in education and outreach to educational communities worldwide.

9. The Committee noted with satisfaction the large number of outreach activities carried out at the regional level for building capacity through education and training in using space science and technology applications for sustainable development. The Committee noted with appreciation the role played in space-related education by the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations.

10. Some delegations expressed the view that the role of the Committee in the dissemination and extension of the benefits that space activities generate for the socioeconomic development of all States should be strengthened, and that UNISPACE+50 could provide a unique opportunity in that regard.

11. Some delegations expressed the view that it was imperative to redouble the efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived from outer space activities, and to promote a wider and more active involvement of developing countries, including through capacity-building.

12. Some delegations expressed the view that it was important to increase the equality of access to the benefits of space technology and its applications to help achieve the 2030 Agenda.

13. The view was expressed that, taking into account the need of developing countries to use space science and technologies for their socioeconomic development, cooperation with such countries in outer space activities should be promoted, and, in particular, the non-discriminatory transfer of related science, know-how and technology should be ensured.

14. The view was expressed that the Committee should continue to create opportunities to assist Member States in enhancing their capacities and institutional integration relating to the use of space technology for sustainable development at various levels of cooperation, and that the support of the international community

was needed in providing technical support to developing countries, adequate resources for the transfer of knowledge and capacity-building relating to space technologies.

15. The view was expressed that there was a need to promote space science and technology and their applications as relevant not just for space missions, but also for its practical societal benefits, such as tele-education, disaster management and food security.

16. The view was expressed that it was necessary to further leverage space and space assets to support the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and increase its socioeconomic benefits to humankind.

17. The view was expressed that the development of guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities was vital to supporting the 2030 Agenda.

18. The view was expressed that positions in the geostationary orbit should be fairly distributed in accordance with the principle of equality and that unjust, excessive reservation of such positions should not be allowed. The delegation expressing that view was of also the view that the Committee should request ITU to protect the rights of Member States with regard to positions in that orbit and to distribute such positions in accordance with the principle of equality, allocating at least two orbital positions for each country in accordance with their actual needs and not far from the longitude of their territory.

E. Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status

19. The Committee considered the agenda item entitled “Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status”, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [71/90](#).

20. The representatives of India, Italy, Oman, South Africa and the United States made statements under the item.

21. The Committee heard a presentation entitled “Interactive visual exploration of ‘big data’ from space astronomy missions”, by the representative of Portugal.

22. The Committee noted with interest *Spin-off 2017*, a publication of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

23. The Committee took note of the information provided by States on their national practices regarding spin-offs from space technology involving various actors, including from the private sector and academia, that had resulted in the introduction of strategies for the management of regional economic development.

24. The Committee took note of innovations in numerous scientific areas, such as medicine, dentistry, biology, chemistry and materials sciences. It further took note of practical applications in civil society, such as the use of enhanced robotics in medicine and of colour photometry to monitor water levels for the benefit of agriculture, and the use of enhanced technologies to reduce energy consumption, improve techniques in lubrication, cutting and drilling, and to facilitate resource exploration, infrastructure improvements, firefighting, geographical positioning, navigation and the tracking of search and rescue personnel.

25. The Committee agreed that spin-offs from space technology constituted a powerful engine for technological innovation and growth in both the industrial and service sectors and that spin-offs had helped to improve public service delivery through modern communications infrastructure and to open new avenues of scientific and technological innovations and had allowed for sustainable growth in the global space industry. It also agreed that spin-offs could be applied to achieve social and economic objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals.

26. The Committee noted that Governments had continued to develop national policies directed specifically at disseminating space technologies and actively

promoting spin-offs by streamlining licensing and procedures to protect intellectual property to facilitate and support the market entry of products derived from space technology by start-up companies.

27. The Committee agreed that the use of spin-offs from space technology should be further promoted because such spin-offs had fostered the development of innovative technologies in other sectors, thus advancing national economies and contributing to a better quality of life.
