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English only

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Fifty-fifth session
Vienna, 29 January–9 February 2018

**Revised draft resolution on space as a driver of sustainable
development**

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. At its seventh meeting, held on 2 February 2018, the Working Group of the Whole requested the Secretariat to make revisions to the text of the draft resolution in document [A/AC.105/C.1/L.364](#), taking into account the previous revisions contained in conference room paper A/AC.105/C.1/2018/CRP.6.
2. The present conference room paper contains a revised text of the draft resolution in Annex I with proposed revisions in track changes. Only the preambular part has been discussed thus far.
3. The conference room paper also contains proposed text for the report of the Working Group of the Whole of the fifty-fifth session of the Subcommittee in Annex II.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 9 February 2018.



Annex I

[THE PRESENT ANNEX I INCLUDES SUGGESTIONS TO THE TEXT AS DISCUSSED THUS FAR AT THE MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE DURING THE 55TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE]

Draft resolution on

- “United Nations: a “Space2030” vision”
- “space as a driver of global sustainable development towards 2030 and beyond”
- “the fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: Towards 2030 and beyond”

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2453 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 37/90 of 10 December 1982, 54/68 of 6 December 1999 and 59/2 of 20 October 2004,

Recalling its resolution 72/79 of 7 December 2017,

Reaffirming the [extraordinary] achievements made in space exploration, science and technology for the understanding of the universe, the planetary system and the Sun and the Earth itself, and in protecting and preserving the Earth environment, the atmosphere and the ecological foundation for all life on Earth,

Expressing its firm conviction of the enormous ~~continuous~~ potential contribution of space science and technology and their applications to achieving in meeting the goals and targets of the comprehensive 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet. people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership as laid down in the comprehensive 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

[Reiterating that all countries, [large or small], irrespective of their degrees of economic or scientific development, are the participants, contributors and beneficiaries of the [peaceful] exploration and [peaceful] use of outer space, therefore encouraging all States to continue to contribute actively to further promote and strengthen international cooperation, bearing in mind the spirit of peace [and cooperation], [development, inclusiveness and shared governance], in the [peaceful] exploration and [peaceful] use of outer space, for the objective of shaping [a community of] shared future for humankind, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries].

Reiterating that space science and technology and their applications, [such as satellite communications, Earth observation systems and satellite navigation technologies], ~~[and their integration and interoperability],~~ provide efficient [indispensable] tools for [viable] long-term solutions [to challenges to] [for] sustainable development and can ~~contribute more effectively to~~ enhance efforts to promote the development of all countries and regions of the world, to improve ~~[people’s lives]~~ life on Earth, to conserve natural resources and to enhance the preparedness for and mitigation of the consequences of disasters,

Convinced, therefore, that the fulfilment of the aims of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ~~[and]~~ the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 ~~[and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change]~~ require stronger ~~space coordination governance~~ and supporting structures at all international levels, including improved access to space-based data, applications and space infrastructure,

Stressing the need to look more closely into how advanced space research and exploration systems and technologies could further contribute to meeting challenges to sustainable development, including that of global climate change, disaster risk reduction and global health improvement,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,

Recognizing that all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Deeply concerned about the fragility of the space environment and the challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in particular the impact of space debris,

Recognizing, in that regard, that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat, has for the past sixty years served as a [unique] [main/major] platform at the global level for international cooperation in space activities and ~~[that the Committee and its subsidiary bodies stand at the forefront in bringing the world together]~~ in using space science and technology to preserve the Earth and the space environment [and ensure the future of human civilization],

Acknowledging that significant changes have occurred in the structure and content of the space activities endeavour, as reflected in the emergence of new technologies and the increasing number of actors at all levels, and therefore noting with satisfaction the progress made in strengthening international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space by enhancing the capacity of States for economic, social and cultural development and in this regard, recognizing the need to and by strengthening the regulatory frameworks and mechanisms ~~to that effect~~,

Reiterating, in that regard, the role of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies as the cornerstone of the international legal regime governing outer space activities and that the Treaty manifests the fundamental principles of international space law, and convinced that the Treaty will continue to provide an indispensable framework for the conduct of outer space activities,

Mindful of the need to promote universal, safe and equitable access to the benefits of space as the scientific, technological, economic and cultural heritage of humankind, and in that regard, convinced of the need for the Committee and its subcommittees to address the emergence of ~~to consider the growing interest in~~ commercial activities in outer space,

Mindful of the importance of enhancing access to space for all countries, including through open and transparent access to astronomy and space science data, for the benefit of humankind,

[*Convinced*, therefore, that the continuous growth and diversification of space activities should be attributed to combined and sustained efforts undertaken at the national, regional, interregional and international levels to foster international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space],

Emphasizing the need to build stronger partnerships and international cooperation and coordination in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space at all levels and among all actors of the broader space community, in order to enhance the contribution utility of space activities for the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals [and targets and for the well-being of all peoples],

Convinced that in meeting the long-term objectives of space as a driver of global sustainable development towards 2030 and beyond, the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50) has resulted in a considerable ~~unique~~ and unprecedented effort to emphasize ~~consider~~ the past achievements and current status of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and determine its future contribution to the global governance of outer space activities, and to strengthen its role in the use of space-based data and infrastructure development in meeting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting with satisfaction that the Committee, in preparation for UNISPACE+50, analysed the impact of the three UNISPACE Conferences held in 1968, 1982 and 1999, as well as the review undertaken in 2004, and assessed its past, present and future role, as well as those of its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs, within the cross-cutting areas of governance, capacity-building, resiliency, interoperability and space for sustainable development, and noting with satisfaction also that that assessment provided the basis for the selection of seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50,¹

Noting with appreciation, the outstanding work of the Committee and its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs carried out under the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50,² including the related objectives and mechanisms in that regard, and all background documents in preparation for UNISPACE+50, including the “Space2030” agenda and the global governance of outer space activities.

Emphasizing that the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50 represent a comprehensive strategy for addressing key areas that together determine core objectives for the future work of the Committee and its subcommittees and the Office in the areas of global partnership in space exploration and innovation; the legal regime of outer space and global governance: current and future perspectives; enhanced information exchange on space objects and events; international framework for space weather services; strengthened space cooperation for global health; international cooperation towards low-emission and resilient societies; and capacity-building for the twenty-first century,

Witnessing the UNISPACE+50 high-level segment, held in Vienna on 20 and 21 June 2018, that represented the first United Nations event of such nature ~~global space summit~~ of the twenty-first century for the purpose of initiating a “Space2030” agenda as a comprehensive strategy in strengthening the global governance of outer space activities and the contribution of space to the achievement of the global agendas addressing long-term development concerns of all humanity,

1. *Declares* that the “Space2030” agenda is constituted by this resolution and represents a broad, cross-cutting and strategic vision in which space is seen as a main driver and contributor to overarching development goals and strengthened international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, in particular for the benefit of developing countries;

2. *Convinced*, therefore, that further action must be taken to advance scientific knowledge of outer space and protect the space environment; protect planet Earth and its environment and managing its resources; use space science and technology for human security, development and welfare; enhance capacity-building, education and training; strengthen space activities in the United Nations system; and promote international cooperation to meet those goals;

3. *Decides*, in that regard, to strengthen the unique role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, as the prime intergovernmental platform for international

¹ See [A/AC.105/L.297](#) and [A/AC.105/1137](#).

² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/71/20)*, para. 296,

cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and the negotiation of instruments pertaining to space activities and the continued work towards further increasing its membership, and accordingly, by strengthening the mandates of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs;

4. *Agrees* that strengthened triangular cooperation on long-term integrated capacity-building and strengthened South-South cooperation, in particular for the empowerment of women and youth, including through cooperation among Member States, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and private sector entities is a priority under the “Space2030” agenda;

5. *Decides*, therefore, to establish a global partnership for the Sustainable Development Goals and a related global compact for space and global space fund, to better service the needs of developing countries;

6. *Convinced* that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its subcommittees, and the Office for Outer Space Affairs should coordinate efforts to strengthen the implementation of the United Nations treaties and principles on outer space, including on the United Nations Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space, as a means of promoting the universality of the United Nations treaties on outer space;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen the coordination and interrelationship between the Committee and its subcommittees, assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in addressing agenda items in a comprehensive, cross-cutting manner, combining scientific, technical, legal and policy dimensions, and to foster through its agendas the use and utility of space as a driver of global sustainable development towards 2030 and beyond;

8. *Decides* that in strengthening the Office for Outer Space Affairs to adequately support the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, in its capacity as Secretariat to those bodies, and in carrying out capacity-building activities in the field of space science and technology and their application, international space law, policy and space-related institutional capacity-building, in an integrated and targeted manner, and in cooperation with Member States, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and industry and private sector entities, the Office needs adequate financial and human resources to fulfil its mandates to fully support Member States;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take action to implement the present resolution and to ensure that the actions can be carried out successfully;

10. *Agrees* that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space should make an evaluation of the implementation of actions under this resolution and report to the General Assembly in 2025.

Annex II

Proposed paragraphs for the report of the Working Group of the Whole

Para.x The Working Group agreed that many of the proposed targets and outputs in the draft resolution, contained in document A/AC.105/C.1/L.364, should be further considered and that the specific resolution stemming from the UNISPACE+50 high-level segment in June 2018 should draw up the strategic lines for further strengthening of the Committee, its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs, thus constituting a “Space2030” agenda, and that in parallel to the actions in the draft resolution the following proposed outputs should be further considered by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-first session:

(a) The development of a space for development profile and space solutions compendium coordinated by the Office;

(b) The establishment of a space information and training capacity of the Office for trainers and educators to get on-hands support;

(c) The establishment of a capacity-building network to provide space-related educational opportunities in support of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(d) The creation of a universal space heritage sites programme, as part of the capacity-building network, in consultation with relevant United Nations entities and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(e) The strengthening of the Secretariat to fully service the Committee and its subcommittees, including on proposed new agenda items and processes, within the efforts of the Committee to strengthen its unique position;

(f) The strengthening of capacity-building in international space law and policy, and institutional capacity-building, including targeted advisory activities, and enhancement of the role and function of the United Nations Register on Objects Launched into Outer Space;

(g) The strengthening of the presence of the Office in Geneva and New York as well as strengthening the regional presence of the Office, and the strengthening of cooperation between the Office and other United Nations entities and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in creating better synergy and avoid duplication of efforts.

Para.xx The Working Group noted that other proposed outputs as contained in document A/AC.1057C.1/L.364, and not covered by the revised version of the draft resolution to be issues as [...] did not require an endorsement by the General Assembly, or could be carried out within the existing mandates of the Office, and with voluntary contributions by Member States.

Para.xxx The Working Group agreed that, on the basis of para.x above, it was of utmost importance for the future role of the Committee and its subcommittees to consider thoroughly the strengthening of mandates of the Office, and for which further discussion on financial and human resources was needed.