



**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Fifty-sixth session
Vienna, 11–22 February 2019****Proposal by the Bureau of the Working Group on the
“Space2030” Agenda on a draft structure of a “Space2030”
agenda****Working paper submitted by the Bureau of the Working Group on
the “Space2030” Agenda**

1. In accordance with the decision taken by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its sixty-first session, to include on its agenda a new item entitled “Space2030’ agenda” (A/73/20, paras. 358–363), the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda was established under that item and will meet during the fifty-sixth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
2. The Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda held an intersessional meeting in Vienna from 8 to 12 October 2018, in accordance with the decision by the Committee (A/73/20, paras. 361–362) to establish its method of work and workplan, available on a dedicated web page of the Working Group.
3. In accordance with the mandate of the Working Group, derived from General Assembly resolution 73/6, entitled “Fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: space as a driver of sustainable development”, to develop a “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan, the Bureau of the Working Group has prepared an initial draft text for a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda and requested States members of the Committee to submit their inputs and comments by 30 November 2018.
4. The present paper contains a consolidated version of a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan.
5. The Bureau would like to express its gratitude to delegations for the support expressed for the first draft structure of the “Space2030” agenda and for the numerous and valuable comments provided. Many such inputs have been incorporated in the revised version of the draft structure. In revising the draft structure, the Bureau has endeavoured to ensure the overall consistency of the document, which is intended to offer guidance and serve as a reference for more substantive discussion, which will take place in 2019, after the finalization of the structure, as agreed in the workplan. In the light of that, the Bureau thanks those delegations that have already provided inputs related to the possible substantive content of the agenda.



Draft structure of the “Space2030” agenda

I. Introduction

6. Fifty years after the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE), the States Members of the United Nations and the international space community gathered in Vienna, on 20 and 21 June 2018, for the high-level segment of UNISPACE+50, to reflect on more than 50 years of achievement in space exploration and use and to chart the future contribution of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the global governance of outer space activities.¹

7. The General Assembly, in its resolution 73/6 of 26 October 2018 noted with appreciation that the preparatory process and the high-level segment of UNISPACE+50 resulted in documents aimed at articulating a comprehensive, inclusive and strategically oriented vision on strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space, in which space is seen as a major driver of and contributor to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals for the benefit of all countries.

8. The General Assembly invited the Committee to continue to develop, on the basis of the results of the UNISPACE+50 process, a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan and to provide the General Assembly with the outcome of its work for consideration by the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, in 2020.

II. Strategic vision

9. The General Assembly has tasked the Committee, in recognition of its expertise and deep understanding of the scope and nature of international cooperation in space activities, with reviewing in a comprehensive way how to position the United Nations by setting an agenda for the use of space in support of global development agendas, addressing the future challenges of using space technologies, inspiring the global community and providing the benefits of space activities to all people in their daily lives.

10. A result of the UNISPACE+50 process, the “Space2030” agenda is envisioned as a comprehensive strategy for reaffirming and strengthening the contribution of space activities and space tools to the achievement of global agendas,² and addressing long-term sustainable development concerns of humankind. It also aims at contributing to ensuring the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in the light of the significant challenge posed by space debris and increasing space traffic.

11. It provides a framework for strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space and the global governance of outer space activities, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries, while reaffirming the unique role played in this regard by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat. It also contributes to realizing a shared vision for the future in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of and in the interest of all humankind.

12. The “Space2030” agenda acknowledges the importance of ensuring that outer space remains an operationally stable and safe environment suitable for use by current and future generations consistent with longstanding principles contained in the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies.

¹ See [A/AC.105/1137](#).

² The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the Paris Agreement.

13. The “Space2030” agenda aims to address new challenges and opportunities in the space arena at a time when more participants, representing both governmental and non-governmental entities, including industry and the private sector, are increasingly becoming involved in ventures to explore and use space and to carry out space activities.

14. The “Space2030” agenda is also intended to raise awareness globally, especially among youth, of the contributions of space technologies and applications for sustainable development and the importance of global governance of outer space activities. It aims to provide a common understanding of the potential and challenges of bringing the benefits of space to Earth, in the space sector as well as the non-space sector, as close collaboration between the two sectors is vital for reaping the benefits of using space technologies and applications for sustainable development.

15. The responsibility for the fulfilment of the “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan lies primarily with Member States, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, including by providing its technical, policy and legal expertise. In fulfilling the “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan, importance is attached to global partnership and strengthened cooperation among Member States, United Nations entities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and private sector entities, to ensure that through joint efforts and profiting from the practical experiences and contributions of different stakeholders, the benefits of space will be brought to everyone, everywhere.

A. Global governance of outer space activities

16. The “Space2030” agenda should underscore the importance of internationally agreed rules-based global governance of outer space. The United Nations treaties and principles on outer space and related General Assembly resolutions on outer space provide the core elements of the global governance of outer space activities. In particular, the Outer Space Treaty is the cornerstone of the international legal regime governing outer space activities. It contains the fundamental principles of international space law and will continue to provide an indispensable framework for the conduct of outer space activities. Its universalization and effective implementation should be promoted.

17. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, together with its Legal Subcommittee and Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, has a distinguished historical record in the establishment and further development of the international legal regime governing outer space activities. Under that regime, outer space activities by States, international intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental entities are flourishing, and as a result, space science and technology and their applications contribute immeasurably to economic growth and improvements in the quality of life worldwide.

18. The “Space2030” agenda will demonstrate the continuous relevance of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in promoting international cooperation in outer space, as well as its responsiveness to new realities and challenges in the space arena, with a view to ensuring that the space environment continues to be safe and secure.

19. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs are encouraged to continue to coordinate efforts to strengthen the implementation of the United Nations treaties and principles on outer space and to complement and develop the rules and norms governing outer space, when appropriate, to respond to emerging issues.

20. The “Space2030” agenda aims to emphasize the need to strengthen the coordination and interrelationship between the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in

addressing their respective agenda items in a comprehensive, cross-cutting manner, combining scientific, technical, legal and policy dimensions.

B. Space for sustainable development

21. The “Space2030” agenda is to demonstrate that space tools are highly relevant for the attainment of the global development agendas, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its goals and targets, either directly, as enablers and drivers of sustainable development, or indirectly, in support of the indicators for monitoring the progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda as well as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and of the commitments by States parties to the Paris Agreement.

22. In particular, space technology and applications and space-derived data and information contribute to improving the formulation and subsequent implementation of policies and programmes of action in connection with, inter alia, land and water management, marine and coastal ecosystems, health care, climate change, disaster risk reduction and emergency response, energy, navigation, seismic monitoring, natural resources management, biodiversity, agriculture and food security. Concrete examples of the contribution provided by space technologies and applications in this regard could be provided so as to vividly illustrate for all, including the non-space community, the relevance of space science and technology in providing social and economic benefits to all.

III. Overarching objectives

23. As recognized in resolution 73/6, the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50 represent a comprehensive approach to addressing key areas that together determine core objectives for the future work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs in the areas of global partnership in space exploration and innovation (thematic priority 1), current and future perspectives of the legal regime of outer space and global governance (thematic priority 2), enhanced information exchange on space objects and events (thematic priority 3), an international framework for space weather services (thematic priority 4), strengthened space cooperation for global health (thematic priority 5), international cooperation towards low-emission and resilient societies (thematic priority 6), and capacity-building for the twenty-first century (thematic priority 7), while ensuring that the Sustainable Development Goals are at the core of all activity undertaken.

24. Four overarching objectives could be formulated in line with the four identified pillars, namely space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy.

25. Each of the four overarching objectives should be supplemented by a number of concrete sub-goals, to be drawn from the seven thematic priorities and the objectives, mechanisms and background documents related to UNISPACE+50.

Example:

A. Space economy

Objective 1: Enhancing space-derived economic benefits and strengthening the role of the space sector as a major driver for a sustainable economy.

Sub-goals:

1.1.

1.2.

B. Space society

Objective 2: Advancing societal benefits of space-related activities and making the best use of space technologies and space-based services and applications for improving the quality of life on Earth.

Sub-goals:

C. Space accessibility

Objective 3: Improving access to space for all and ensuring that all countries can benefit socioeconomically from space science and technology applications and space-based data, information and products.

Sub-goals:

D. Space diplomacy

Objective 4: Advancing space diplomacy by building partnerships and strengthening international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

Sub-goals:

IV. Implementation plan

26. As agreed, discussions on the structure of the implementation plan will start in 2019. The implementation plan could be structured in line with the framework of the four pillars, namely space economy, space society, space accessibility, space diplomacy, which have already been identified by the Committee and by the General Assembly in its resolution [73/6](#).

27. A mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the agenda could be conducted in 2025, for further reporting to the General Assembly through the Committee.
