



# General Assembly

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**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space  
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee  
Fifty-sixth session  
Vienna, 11–22 February 2019**

## **Annotated provisional agenda**

### **Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Statement by the Chair.
3. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities.
4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications.
5. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development.
6. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment.
7. Space debris.
8. Space-system-based disaster management support.
9. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems.
10. Space weather.
11. Near-Earth objects.
12. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities.
13. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space.
14. Space and global health.
15. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.
16. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

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\* Reissued for technical reasons on 31 January 2019.



17. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

## **Annotations<sup>1</sup>**

### **2. Statement by the Chair**

The Chair will make a statement reviewing developments of relevance to the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee that have taken place since its fifty-fifth session. After that statement, the Subcommittee will organize its schedule of work.

### **3. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities**

The annual written reports submitted by Member States on their space activities will be made available to the Subcommittee ([A/AC.105/1189](#), [A/AC.105/1189/Add.1](#) and [A/AC.105/1189/Add.2](#)).

### **4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications**

In paragraph 20 of its resolution [73/91](#), the General Assembly recognized the capacity-building activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, which provided unique benefits for Member States, in particular developing countries, participating in those activities.

The Subcommittee will have before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the United Nations/Brazil Symposium on Basic Space Technology: Creating Novel Opportunities with Small-Satellite Space Missions, held in Natal, Brazil, from 11 to 14 September 2018 ([A/AC.105/1194](#));

(b) Report on the United Nations/Austria Symposium on Space for Sustainable Development Goals, Stronger Partnership and Strengthened Collaboration, held in Graz, Austria, from 17 to 19 September 2018 ([A/AC.105/1196](#));

(c) Report on the Workshop on Space Technology for Socioeconomic Benefits, held in Bremen, Germany, from 28 to 30 September 2018 ([A/AC.105/1197](#));

(d) Report on the United Nations Expert Meeting on Human Space Technology, held in Vienna, from 4 to 6 December 2018 ([A/AC.105/1199](#));

(e) Report on the United Nations/Argentina workshop on the applications of global navigation satellite systems, held in Falda del Carmen, Argentina, from 19 to 23 March 2018 ([A/AC.105/1205](#));

(f) Report on the United Nations/Pakistan/Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water Fourth International Conference on the Use of Space Technology for Water Management, held in Islamabad from 26 February to 3 March 2018 ([A/AC.105/1206](#)).

### **5. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development**

The Subcommittee will have before it a report on the United Nations/Germany High-level Forum on the theme “The way forward after UNISPACE+50 and towards ‘Space2030’”, held in Bonn, Germany, from 13 to 16 November 2018 ([A/AC.105/1204](#)).

In paragraph 9 of its resolution [73/91](#), the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group of the Whole.

The Working Group of the Whole will consider the item on space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development.

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<sup>1</sup> The annotations and the indicative schedule of work are not part of the agenda to be adopted by the Subcommittee.

**6. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment**

Pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution [73/91](#), the Subcommittee will continue its consideration of this item.

**7. Space debris**

In paragraphs 11 and 12 of its resolution [73/91](#), the General Assembly addressed the issue of space debris.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on national research on space debris, safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating to their collision with space debris. The note contains information the Secretariat has received from Member States and international organizations ([A/AC.105/C.1/115](#) and [A/AC.105/C.1/115/Add.1](#)).

**8. Space-system-based disaster management support**

In paragraph 21 of its resolution [73/91](#), the General Assembly recognized the significant achievements made and the advisory support provided to 40 Member States within the framework of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) since its establishment in 2006.

The Subcommittee will have before it a report on the United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction on the theme "Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective emergency response", held in Beijing from 24 to 26 October 2018 ([A/AC.105/1198](#)), and a report on activities carried out in 2018 in the framework of UN-SPIDER ([A/AC.105/1190](#)).

**9. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems**

In paragraph 23 of its resolution [73/91](#), the General Assembly noted with satisfaction the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG) with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat, in its capacity as executive secretariat of ICG, towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the Thirteenth Meeting of ICG, held in, Xi'an, China, from 5 to 9 November 2018 ([A/AC.105/1191](#)), and a report on the activities carried out in 2018 in the framework of the ICG workplan ([A/AC.105/1192](#)).

**10. Space weather**

The Subcommittee will continue to consider the work being undertaken by the Expert Group on Space Weather ([A/AC.105/1167](#), paras. 194–210).

**11. Near-Earth objects**

In paragraph 10 of its resolution [73/91](#), the General Assembly noted with satisfaction the work carried out by the International Asteroid Warning Network and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group to strengthen international cooperation to mitigate the potential threat posed by near-Earth objects, with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs serving as the permanent secretariat of the Advisory Group.

The Subcommittee will continue to consider the work being undertaken by the Network and the Advisory Group ([A/AC.105/1167](#), paras. 211–233).

**12. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities**

The Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, established under the item on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, concluded its mandate at the sixty-first session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. During its mandate, the Working Group reached consensus on a preamble and 21 guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities (A/73/20, para. 201). The Working Group was not, however, able to reach consensus on its final report or on how to refer the preamble and the guidelines to the General Assembly (A/73/20, paras. 207 and 208).

The Committee, at its sixty-first session, decided that the item on long-term sustainability of outer space activities should continue as a regular item on the agenda of the Subcommittee (A/73/20, para. 215).

The Subcommittee will have before it working papers by the Chair of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities entitled “Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities” (A/AC.105/C.1/L.366) and “Draft guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities” (A/AC.105/C.1/L.367).

**13. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space**

In paragraph 9 of its resolution 73/91, the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.

The Working Group will continue its work under the multi-year workplan for the period 2017–2021 (A/AC.105/1138, annex II, para. 9).

**14. Space and global health**

The Subcommittee, at its fifty-fifth session, agreed to the establishment of a new item on its agenda entitled “Space and global health” (A/AC.105/1167, para. 96 and annex I, para. 13).

The Committee, at its sixty-first session, agreed that a working group under the item on space and global health, should be convened at the fifty-sixth session of the Subcommittee. The Committee further agreed that the Chair of the newly established working group, together with the Secretariat, would present to the fifty-sixth session of the Subcommittee, in 2019, a proposal for a multi-year workplan for that working group, taking into account the role of the Expert Group on Space and Global Health.

The Working Group will have before it a working paper by the Chair of the Working Group on Space and Global Health containing a proposed multi-year workplan of the Working Group on Space and Global Health of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (A/AC.105/C.1/L.376).

**15. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union**

Pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 73/91, the Subcommittee will continue its consideration of this item.

**16. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**

The draft provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Subcommittee, outlining subjects to be dealt with as single issues/items for discussion or under

multi-year workplans, will be submitted to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-second session, in 2019.

The Working Group of the Whole will consider the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Subcommittee. The Working Group of the Whole will also consider the governance and method of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies under the multi-year workplan agreed by the Committee at its sixty-first session ([A/73/20](#), para. 382), based on recommendations by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee given at their sessions in 2018 ([A/AC.105/1167](#), annex I, paras. 16 and 17, and [A/AC.105/1177](#), annex I, para. 9). The Working Group of the Whole will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing a categorization of topics relating to the governance and method of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies ([A/AC.105/C.1/L.377](#)).

In accordance with the agreement reached by the Subcommittee at its forty-fourth session, in 2007 ([A/AC.105/890](#), annex I, para. 24), and at the sixty-first session of the Committee, in 2018 ([A/73/20](#), para. 218), a symposium organized by the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) on the topic “Space weather and small satellites” will be held in the afternoon of 11 February 2019.

## Annex

### Organization of work

1. The work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee has been scheduled so as to afford the working groups that will be convened under items 5, 13, 14 and 16 the maximum amount of time available.
2. In accordance with the decision, made by the Committee at its sixty-first session, to include on its agenda a new item entitled “‘Space2030’ agenda”, which was to remain on the Committee’s agenda until the sixty-third session of the Committee, in 2020, (A/73/20, paras. 358–363), the Working Group on a “Space2030” Agenda that was established under that item will meet during the fifty-sixth session of the Subcommittee with interpretation services at its disposal. The Working Group will have before it a proposal by its Bureau on a draft structure for that agenda, in document A/AC.105/C.1/L.372.
3. The number of statements to be made at each meeting under item 3, entitled “General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities”, may be limited, as necessary, in order to allow sufficient time for other agenda items to be considered as planned for each meeting. As a general rule, statements should not exceed 10 minutes in duration (A/70/20, para. 357 and A/AC.105/1088, para. 275 (b)).
4. Technical presentations should be limited to three per meeting, they should be closely linked to the agenda items of the Subcommittee and they should not exceed 15 minutes in duration. The Chair should remind delegations if that length of time is exceeded (A/70/20, para. 357 and A/AC.105/1088, para. 275 (c)).
5. An indicative schedule of work is provided below. The indicative schedule of work is a general guide to the dates and times when items will be addressed during the session. The consideration of all items may be advanced, extended or delayed, depending on the requirements of the members of the Subcommittee and any organizational constraints faced in the course of the session.

#### Indicative schedule of work\*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
<b>Week of 11–15 February 2019</b>		
Monday, 11 February	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda Item 2. Statement by the Chair Item 3. General exchange of views	Item 3. General exchange of views Symposium organized by COSPAR on the topic “Space weather and small satellites”
Tuesday, 12 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 10. Space weather Item 12. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 10. Space weather Item 12. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities Technical presentations

\* At its thirty-eighth session, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed that member States would continue to be provided with an indicative schedule of work, which would be without prejudice to the actual timing of consideration of specific agenda items (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/50/20)*, paras. 168 and 169 (b)).

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Wednesday, 13 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 10. Space weather Item 12. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 13. Nuclear power sources <sup>a</sup> Item 14. Space and global health <sup>b</sup> Technical presentations
Thursday, 14 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 13. Nuclear power sources <sup>a</sup> Item 14. Space and global health <sup>b</sup> Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 13. Nuclear power sources <sup>a</sup> Item 14. Space and global health <sup>b</sup> Technical presentations
Friday, 15 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 7. Space debris Item 11. Near-Earth objects Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 7. Space debris Item 11. Near-Earth objects Technical presentations
<b>Week of 18–22 February 2019</b>		
Monday, 18 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 7. Space debris Item 11. Near-Earth objects Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 5. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development <sup>c</sup> Item 9. Global navigation satellite systems Technical presentations
Tuesday, 19 February	Item 4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 5. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development <sup>c</sup> Item 9. Global navigation satellite systems Technical presentations	Item 4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 5. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development <sup>c</sup> Item 9. Global navigation satellite systems Technical presentations
Wednesday, 20 February	Item 4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 6. Remote sensing Item 8. Disaster management support Technical presentations	Item 6. Remote sensing Item 8. Disaster management support Item 15. Geostationary orbit Technical presentations
Thursday, 21 February	Item 6. Remote sensing Item 8. Disaster management support Item 15. Geostationary orbit Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space Adoption of the report of the Working Group on Space and Global Health	Item 15. Geostationary orbit Item 16. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Subcommittee <sup>c</sup> Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole Adoption of the report of the Working Group on a “Space2030” Agenda Technical presentations

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
	Technical presentations	
Friday, 22 February	Item 17. Report to the Committee	Item 17. Report to the Committee

<sup>a</sup> The Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution [73/91](#), will meet during the session for its consideration of item 13. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday, 21 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

<sup>b</sup> The Working Group on Space and Global Health, to be convened pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution [73/91](#), will meet during the session for its consideration of item 14. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday 21 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

<sup>c</sup> The Working Group of the Whole, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution [73/91](#), will meet during the session for its consideration of items 5 and 16. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of those items on Thursday, 21 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

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