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

Summary report of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

1. In accordance with the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-first session, held from 20 to 29 June 2018, the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda was established under a new agenda item of the Committee, entitled “Space2030 agenda”, which will remain on the Committee’s agenda until its sixty-third session, in 2020 (A/73/20, paras. 358–364).

2. The Working Group met during the fifty-sixth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, during the plenary meetings and in informal consultations, with a view to finalizing a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda that would serve as a guidance document for the future work of the Working Group in developing a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan.

3. The Working Group had before it the following documents:

   (a) Proposal by the Bureau of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda on a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda (A/AC.105/C.1/L.372);


4. The Working Group noted with appreciation the preparatory work by the Bureau of the Working Group, assisted by the Secretariat, in advance of the current session and also noted with appreciation the Bureau’s efficient leadership in conducting the meetings at the current session of the Subcommittee to advance its work.

5. The Working Group exchanged ideas on a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan and agreed that a “Space2030” agenda should be developed as a high-level, forward-looking document, intended to raise awareness around the world of the contributions of space technologies and applications to sustainable development and of the importance of global governance of outer space activities. It should highlight the role of space and the broad societal benefits it brings, serving as a source of inspiration and significantly contributing to the everyday lives of people on Earth.

6. The Working Group agreed that a “Space2030” agenda should demonstrate the continuous relevance of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Subcommittees as a unique platform for international cooperation in the exploration
and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes, able to demonstrate responsiveness to new realities and challenges in the space sector. The document would also demonstrate the important role of space in the United Nations system-wide efforts to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

7. The Working Group agreed that a “Space2030” agenda should promote a sense of ownership over its implementation by States but also through joint efforts, global partnerships and strengthened cooperation among Member States, United Nations entities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and private sector entities. As such, the document should be written, in clear, understandable language.

8. The Working Group noted with appreciation the revised text of a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda prepared by the Bureau that had been finalized during the present session and would be made available to the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-eighth session as a working document to be used as guidance for developing a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan.

9. The Working Group agreed that, on the basis of the guidance received, the Bureau, assisted by the Secretariat, would prepare a zero draft of a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan, to be submitted to the Legal Subcommittee for further consideration at its fifty-eighth session.

10. The appendix to the present summary report contains the method of work and workplan established by the Working Group at its intersessional consultations that were held in Vienna from 8 to 12 October 2018, in accordance with the decision of the Committee (A/73/20, para. 361), and will be put before the Committee for endorsement at its sixty-second session, to be held from 12 to 21 June 2019.
Appendix

Method of work and workplan of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

I. Introduction

1. In accordance with the decision of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-first session, held in Vienna from 20 to 29 June 2018, the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda has been established under a new agenda item of the Committee, entitled “Space2030 agenda”, that will remain on the Committee’s agenda until the sixty-third session of the Committee, in 2020.
2. The Working Group is chaired by members of the Bureau, comprising the Chair, Awni Mohammad Khasawneh (Jordan), and the two Vice-Chairs, Maria Assunta Accili Sabbatini (Italy) and Dumitru Dorin Prunariu (Romania), and is assisted by the Secretariat.
3. The Working Group will develop a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan, pursuant to the mandate contained in 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”.

II. Method of work

4. The Working Group will report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
5. The meetings of the Working Group are to be guided by the rules of procedure and methods of work related to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies, and to be held in accordance with established practice. The Working Group is to take decisions by consensus.
6. The Working Group will meet, with interpretation, during the sessions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and during the sessions of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee in 2019 and 2020. The Working Group may hold informal consultations on the margins of the sessions. The Working Group may also decide to meet intersessionally in Vienna, as necessary, to advance its work.
7. The Working Group will engage with permanent observers of the Committee in accordance with the rules of procedure and methods of work related to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies, and in accordance with established practice.
8. The Working Group will take advantage of electronic communication and will use the list of focal points of the Working Group to share information. It will have a dedicated web page on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat.
9. The Bureau of the Working Group will liaise with the Chairs of relevant working and expert groups of the two Subcommittees in a transparent manner, with a view to creating synergies and avoiding duplication of effort, and with the overall objective of developing a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan. It will inform the Working Group accordingly.
III. Workplan (2018–2020)

2018 Establish the method of work and workplan of the Working Group at its intersessional meeting.

Exchange ideas on possible elements for a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan. The Bureau will prepare a draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda on the basis of the ideas exchanged in the intersessional meeting and any further consultations with States members of the Committee. That document will be used as the starting point for negotiations within the Working Group in 2019, including on the implementation plan of the agenda, and will be made available in all the official languages of the United Nations in advance of the fifty-sixth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

2019 Consider the draft structure of a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan with a view to finalizing it by the end of the fifty-sixth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

Start developing a draft “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan and submitting a consolidated draft “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-second session. The Working Group may hold intersessional meetings, as necessary, to advance its work.

2020 Continue to consider and consolidate the draft “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan during the sessions of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee to be held in 2020. The Working Group may hold intersessional meetings, as necessary, to advance its work. Present a final, consolidated draft of the “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan to the Committee at its sixty-third session, in 2020, for consideration and submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, in 2020.