Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Fifty-eighth session
Vienna, 19–30 April 2021

Draft report of the Working Group of the Whole

1. In accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 75/92, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fifty-eighth session, reconvened its Working Group of the Whole.

2. From 21 to 28 April 2021, the Working Group held three meetings, with Raman Umamaheswaran (India) as Acting Chair in the absence of the Chair, P. Kunhikrishnan (India).

3. The Working Group considered the following items:
   (a) Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development;
   (b) Future role and method of work of the Committee;
   (c) Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

4. The Working Group had before it the note by the Secretariat entitled “Governance and method of work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies” (A/AC.105/C.1/L.384).

5. The Working Group noted that the measures agreed on by the Working Group of the Whole at the fifty-seventh session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1224, annex I, para. 7) would be implemented at the fifty-ninth session of the Subcommittee, in 2022, and had not been implemented at the present fifty-eighth session of the Subcommittee, owing to the extraordinary situation with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, which had warranted a hybrid (in-person and virtual) format.

6. The Working Group agreed that the Secretariat should submit to the Committee for consideration at its sixty-fourth session, in 2021, further information on the potential use of webcasting for open meetings, and on the availability of a daily list of speakers for the benefit of delegations.

7. The Working Group noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 75/92, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee would submit to the Committee its proposal for the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Subcommittee, to be held in 2022. The Working Group agreed that the draft provisional agenda was to be considered by the Subcommittee under item 17 of its agenda.

8. At its 3rd meeting, on 28 April, the Working Group adopted the present report.