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Committee on the Peaceful

Uses of Outer Space

Sixty-fourth session

Vienna, 25 August–3 September 2021

Draft report

Addendum

Chapter II

Recommendations and decisions

E. Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status

1. The Committee considered the agenda item entitled “Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status”, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 75/92.
2. The representatives of India, Mexico, the Russian Federation, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements under the item.
3. The Committee heard a presentation entitled “Educational satellite kit: space technology benefits”, by the representative of Egypt.
4. The Committee took note of the information provided by States on their national practices regarding spin-offs from space technology involving various actors, including the private sector and academia.
5. The Committee noted that the publication “Spinoff 2021”, issued by NASA, was available on the NASA website. The Committee expressed its gratitude to NASA for the “Spinoff” publication series, which had been made available to delegations every year since the forty-third session of the Committee, in 2000.
6. The Committee took note of innovations in numerous areas, such as health, medicine, the environment, education, electronics, communication, transport, safety, biology, chemistry, geomatics, geophysics and materials science. It further noted that many of the technologies developed for space applications and licensed by space agencies had been transferred to industries and had led to practical applications in society, in particular in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic and technology transfer with regard to relevant medical devices.
7. Some delegations expressed the view that technology transfer programmes of space agencies, in which technical know-how was transferred to relevant industries, allowed innovations to be made available to entrepreneurs, companies, academia and government agencies. The delegations expressing that view also expressed the view



that those programmes had contributed to technological self-reliance, industrial growth and national development through spin-off benefits.

8. Some delegations expressed the view that remote sensing and Earth observation programmes, in particular images, data and analysis, were important for urban and agricultural planning, health, energy, food safety, the management of socio-natural risks, border surveillance, the control of illicit crops and illicit mining, logistics, the construction industry, tourism and ecology. The delegations expressing that view also expressed the view that those programmes were important for sustainable projects and helped to inform the decisions of entities affected by climate change.

9. The view was expressed that, at present, there was a significant divide between countries that had made great progress in technological development in space matters and those working to create or strengthen the sector, which was why it was necessary to further promote international cooperation, the exchange of information and research and technology transfer within the Committee.
