



General Assembly

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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

B. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its fifty-eighth session

11. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

[See [A/AC.105/L.322/Add.1](#), paras. 70–76, for the preceding paragraphs.]

1. The Committee also noted that the Working Group would hold a virtual intersessional meeting mid-October 2021 and requested the Chair and the secretariat to make the necessary arrangements for that intersessional meeting.

2. The Committee further noted that documents, to be prepared by the delegation of the United States and the European Space Agency, would be made available for consideration by the Working Group at its intersessional meeting to be held in October 2021, containing considerations to advance the safety of space nuclear power source applications, including draft terms of reference for a proposed international expert group to be established by and composed of representatives of Member States and other relevant international governmental organizations. Once established, the expert group could meet on the margins of sessions of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and provide the Subcommittee with updates on its work, with no financial implications for the budget of the United Nations.

3. The Committee further noted that further discussions were planned for the intersessional meeting of the Working Group to be held in October 2021 on document [A/AC.105/C.1/L.390](#), entitled “Updated preliminary analysis of how the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space contribute to the safety of space nuclear power source applications”, related to the second objective of its current workplan.



C. Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its sixtieth session

11. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources

[See [A/AC.105/L.322/Add.2](#), paras. 78–89, for the preceding paragraphs.]

4. At its sixtieth session, the Legal Subcommittee requested the Chair and Vice-Chair of the working group under the agenda item on the general exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources to continue consultations in the intersessional period on the mandate, terms of reference and method of work of the working group so that the Committee could further consider those matters at its sixty-fourth session (see [A/AC.105/1243](#), para. 257).

5. At the sixty-fourth session, the working group held four formal and informal meetings, the results of which were endorsed by the Committee at its 782nd meeting and are set out in annex III to the present report.

L. Other matters

6. The Committee considered the agenda item entitled “Other matters”, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [75/92](#).

7. The representatives of Austria, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Mexico, South Africa and the United Kingdom made statements under the item. The observer for PSIPW also made a statement. During the general exchange of views, statements relating to the item were also made by representatives of other member States.

1. Composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2022–2023

8. Pursuant to the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution [52/56](#), the Committee considered the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2022–2023.

9. The Committee noted that the General Assembly in its resolution [75/92](#) had noted that the Eastern European States had nominated Oleg Ventskovsky (Ukraine) for the office of Second Vice-Chair/Rapporteur of the Committee for the period 2022–2023.

10. The Committee noted that the Western European and other States had endorsed the candidature of Jenni Tapiö (Finland) for the office of First Vice-Chair of the Committee for the period 2022–2023 ([A/AC.105/2021/CRP.20](#)).

11. The Committee urged the African States, the Asia-Pacific States and the Latin American and Caribbean States to nominate their candidates for the offices of Chair of the Legal Subcommittee, Chair of the Committee and Chair of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, respectively, in time for the Committee and its subcommittees to elect their officers at their respective sessions in 2022.

2. Membership of the Committee

12. The Committee took note of the application of Angola for membership in the Committee ([A/AC.105/2021/CRP.3](#)) and decided to recommend to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session, in 2021, that Angola should become a member of the Committee.

13. The Committee took note of the application of Bangladesh for membership in the Committee ([A/AC.105/2021/CRP.4](#)) and decided to recommend to the General

Assembly at its seventy-sixth session, in 2021, that Bangladesh should become a member of the Committee.

14. The Committee took note of the application of Panama for membership in the Committee (A/AC.105/2021/CRP.5) and decided to recommend to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session, in 2021, that Panama should become a member of the Committee.

15. The Committee took note of the application of Slovenia for membership in the Committee (A/AC.105/2021/CRP.6) and decided to recommend to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session, in 2021, that Slovenia should become a member of the Committee.

16. The Committee took note of the application of Kuwait for membership in the Committee (A/AC.105/2021/CRP.19) and decided to recommend to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session, in 2021, that Kuwait should become a member of the Committee.

3. Observer status

17. The Committee took note of the application of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) for permanent observer status with the Committee. The application and the relevant correspondence were before the Committee in conference room paper A/AC.105/2021/CRP.7.

18. The Committee decided to grant UNIDROIT the status of permanent observer with the Committee.

19. The Committee took note of the application of the Square Kilometre Array Observatory for permanent observer status with the Committee. The application and the relevant correspondence were before the Committee in conference room paper A/AC.105/2021/CRP.8.

20. The Committee decided to grant the Square Kilometre Array Observatory the status of permanent observer with the Committee.

21. With regard to the applications of non-governmental organizations for the status of permanent observer with the Committee, the Committee recalled its agreement at its fifty-third session, in 2010 ([A/65/20](#), para. 311), that observer status would be granted to non-governmental organizations on a provisional basis, for a period of three years, pending information on the status of their application for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, that the provisional observer status could be extended for an additional year, if necessary, and that it would grant permanent observer status to such non-governmental organizations upon confirmation of their consultative status with the Council.

22. The Committee took note of the application of the Open Lunar Foundation for permanent observer status with the Committee. The application and the relevant correspondence were before the Committee in conference room paper A/AC.105/2021/CRP.9.

23. The Committee decided to grant the Open Lunar Foundation the status of observer, on a provisional basis, for a period of three years, pending information on the status of their application for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

4. Other matters

24. The Committee took note of the proposal for the proclamation of the International Moon Day (A/AC.105/2021/CRP.14) and agreed to recommend to the General Assembly that, at its seventy-sixth session, in 2021, the Assembly proclaim that International Moon Day be observed annually, on 20 July.

25. The Committee took note of the proposal that a text on the important work of the Office for Outer Space Affairs should be included in the ministerial declaration of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to be held in July 2022.

26. The Committee took note of the proposals on the issue of equitable access of developing countries to the geostationary orbit as presented at the fifty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (A/AC.105/C.1/2021/CRP.26) and the sixtieth session of the Legal Subcommittee (A/AC.105/C.2/2021/CRP.21).

5. Programme 5, “Peaceful uses of outer space”: proposed programme plan for the period 2022 and programme performance for 2020

27. The Committee had before it the following:

(a) A conference room paper entitled Programme 5, “Peaceful uses of outer space”: proposed programme plan for the period 2022 (A/AC.105/2021/CRP.15);

(b) Proposed programme budget for 2022 (A/76/6 (Sect.6)).

28. The Committee noted that the proposed programme plan for the period 2022 had been reviewed by the subsidiary organ of the General Assembly for planning, programming and coordination, the Committee for Programme and Coordination, at its sixty-first session in June 2021, and that the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination under programme 5 were contained in document A/76/16, paras. 104–111.

29. The Committee welcomed the presentation by the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs on the proposed programme plan for the period 2022 and the information provided by the Office on key areas of work.

30. The Committee noted that, considering that the Committee for Programme and Coordination had already concluded its work, any inputs agreed by the Committee at the present session would serve to inform future draft programme plans.

31. The Committee noted that the programme plan as contained in document A/76/6 (Sect.6), together with the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, would serve as the basis for the preparation of the proposed programme plan for the period 2023.

32. The view was expressed that the Office might consider integrating language on strengthening research and cooperation in developing norms and regulations into the paragraph on lessons learned and planned change (para. 6.35) under result 3: a more secure global navigation satellite systems spectrum, in document A/76/6 (Sect.6).

33. The view was expressed that the inclusion of such language would need to be discussed by the International Committee on Global Navigation of Satellite Systems (ICG) and that the description of the support to be provided by the Office to ICG should not be modified.

34. The view was expressed that there was a need for member States of the Committee to work during the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly to ensure that the Office had adequate resources to implement its programme of work.

6. Draft provisional agenda for the sixty-fifth session of the Committee

35. The Committee recommended that the following items should be considered at its sixty-fifth session, in 2022:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Election of officers.
4. Statement by the Chair.
5. General exchange of views.

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6. Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes.
 7. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its fifty-ninth session.
 8. Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its sixty-first session.
 9. Space and sustainable development.
 10. Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status.
 11. Space and water.
 12. Space and climate change.
 13. Use of space technology in the United Nations system.
 14. Future role and method of work of the Committee.
 15. Space exploration and innovation.
 16. “Space2030” agenda.
 17. Other matters.
 18. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

M. Schedule of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies

36. The Committee agreed on the following tentative timetable for its session and those of its subcommittees in 2022:

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee	7–18 February 2022	Vienna
Legal Subcommittee	28 March–8 April 2022	Vienna
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space	1–10 June 2022	Vienna
