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**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**
Legal Subcommittee
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Draft report

Addendum

VIII. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 78/72, the Legal Subcommittee considered agenda item 10, entitled “General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee”, as a single issue/item for discussion.
2. The representatives of Belarus, Colombia, France, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements under agenda item 10. A statement was made by the representative of Colombia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. During the general exchange of views, statements relating to the item were also made by representatives of other member States.
3. The Subcommittee had before it the following:
 - (a) Conference room paper entitled “Compendium of space debris mitigation standards adopted by States and international organizations” (A/AC.105/C.2/2024/CRP.9);
 - (b) Conference room paper submitted by Three Country-Trusted Broker containing a report entitled “Through a glass darkly – how four good ideas are inhibiting remediation of orbital debris” (A/AC.105/C.2/2024/CRP.25).
4. The Subcommittee heard the following presentations:
 - (a) “Space sustainability: the advent of commercial on-orbit servicing and immediate need for space norms”, by the representative of Japan;



(b) “Licensing in-orbit servicing/active debris removal missions in the United Kingdom: a case study of Astroscale’s ELSA-d and ELSA-M”, by the representative of the United Kingdom.

5. The Subcommittee expressed concern at the increasing amount of space debris and noted that the endorsement by the General Assembly, in its resolution 62/217, of the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space had been an important step in providing all spacefaring nations with guidance on ways to mitigate the problem.

6. The Subcommittee noted with satisfaction that some States were implementing space debris mitigation measures consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee, the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities of the Committee (A/74/20, annex II), the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee, International Organization for Standardization standard ISO 24113:2023 (Space systems: space debris mitigation requirements) and/or ITU recommendation ITU-R S.1003 (Environmental protection of the geostationary-satellite orbit).

7. The Subcommittee also noted with satisfaction that some States had taken measures to incorporate internationally recognized guidelines and standards related to space debris into the relevant provisions of their national legislation. The Subcommittee noted that some States had strengthened their national mechanisms governing space debris mitigation by nominating governmental supervisory authorities, by involving academia and industry and by developing new legislative norms, instructions, standards and frameworks.

8. The Subcommittee noted with satisfaction that the compendium of space debris mitigation standards adopted by States and international organizations, developed on the initiative of Canada, Czechia and Germany, enabled all interested stakeholders to benefit from access to a comprehensive and structured set of current instruments and measures on space debris mitigation. The Subcommittee expressed its appreciation to the secretariat for updating and maintaining the compendium and continuing to make the latest version available on a dedicated web page.

9. The Subcommittee agreed that States members of the Committee and international intergovernmental organizations having permanent observer status with the Committee should be invited to contribute further to the compendium of space debris mitigation standards adopted by States and international organizations by providing or updating information on any legislation or standards adopted with regard to space debris mitigation, using the template provided for that purpose. The Subcommittee also agreed that all other States Members of the United Nations should be invited to contribute to the compendium and encouraged States with such regulations or standards to provide information on them.
