

PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

[NOT ALL TEXT IS LIKELY TO BE READ BY SPEAKER]

(Item 17 of COPUOS agenda)

Introductory Statement

Proposed Programme Plan for the period 2025

Programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space

Mr. Driss El-Hadani

Deputy Director, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs

26 June 2024

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

I thank you for this opportunity to provide information on the status of the Office's draft programme of work for year 2025. The programme plan can be found in document A/79/6 (Sect.6) which was made available together with the CRP. Only Section A of document A/79/6 (Sect.6), more specifically paragraphs 6.1 to 6.23, is to before you. The remaining part of the document pertains to OOSA's proposed programme budget for the same period.

As some may recall, the Committee's annual session and the session of the General Assembly's subsidiary organ for planning, programming and coordination, the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC), often coincide but usually with sufficient overlap to allow for the Committee to provides inputs to the plan before the CPC concludes its work. This year unfortunately the CPC concluded its work prior to the opening day of

COPUOS, namely on Friday 14 June and accordingly, the Office's draft programme plan for 2025 has already been reviewed, and I'm pleased to inform, approved by the CPC subject to modifications to paragraphs 6.4 (c), 6.5 (c), 6.13, planned result 1, paragraph 6.15, and Figure 6.II. The deliberations of the CPC as well as the modifications agreed for OOSA's programme plan for 2025 is available to you in document E/AC.51/2024/L.4/Add.5.

While the work of the CPC has already concluded, there is still opportunity for COPUOS to provide inputs to the Office as these, should the Committee agree, would serve to inform future draft programme plans of the Office.

Therefore, I would like to invite the Committee to provide inputs to the future programme plans of the Office with the next one, for the year 2026, to be prepared and submitted mid-January 2025.

To that end, please allow me reiterate that the principal focus of the Office's responsibilities continues to be the needs of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies, discharging the Secretary-General's responsibilities under the outer space treaties, among which the maintenance of the Register of the Objects Launched into Outer Space, implementing the Space Applications and UN-SPIDER programmes, and supporting ICG and SMPAG.

[READ only if needed] The Office will further focus its efforts on assisting Member States increase access to space and strengthen their capabilities to use space-based solutions, for example by providing specialized training and technical advice to help them build and launch a satellite. In addition, the Office will continue to provide legal advisory services to Member States that request assistance to increase adherence to, and application of, the international treaties governing outer space activities; and technical support to help national

disaster authorities get direct access to space-based data that is necessary for managing disasters and building resilience.

[READ only if needed] Finally, to achieve the planned results the Office will be guided by the objectives outlined in the 'Space2030' Agenda, which calls upon the Office to pursue, within its mandate, partnerships, including with space agencies, research institutions and industry, to provide broader opportunities to access space for purposes of science, innovation, research and development, education and capacity-building.

Distinguished delegates,

More information on the objective of the programme, its strategy, expected results as well as its planned deliverables in selected areas of its work for the year 2025 are contained in A/79/6 (Sect.6).

To conclude, allow me to reiterate the Office's unwavering dedication to advancing peaceful space exploration and fostering sustainable development and to assure you of our commitment to working closely with all Member States to ensure the safe and sustainable use of outer space, and to enhance the societal benefits derived from the use of space science and technology.

I thank you for your consideration.