

**Agenda item 7. Space and Global Health Network**

Distinguished delegates, distinguished Chair

As it is the first time that the Space and Global Health Network is taking the floor in this session, I would like to congratulate you for your election as Chair of the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and your able leadership during the session.

I am also taking the opportunity to thank our colleagues from the Office for Outer Space Affairs for their strong support.

On behalf of the coordinator of the Space and Global Health Network, I am pleased to report the progress made on the implementation of the activities of the 2024 annual work plan and the conclusions of the meeting held on the 19 June 2024 on the margins of the sixty-seventh session of the Committee.

More than 30 participants attended the meeting from the space and health sectors, space agencies, academia and international organizations.

During the meeting, a draft long-term strategy on space and global health for the period 2025–2035 (A/AC.105/C.1/L.417) was presented available in all six official languages of the United Nations for further comments from the members States of the Committee.

Participants acknowledged the successful outcomes of various events including the Geneva Digital Health Day held on 30 May 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland, in the margins of the seventy-seventh World Health Assembly and the Space and Global Hackathon organized by the Geneva Digital Health Hub (gdhub) and the European Space Agency (ESA) in Geneva (30 May - 1 June 2024). The Hackathon was an example of a successful collaboration and also served one key objective to drive capacity building. Various use cases presented during this Hackathon were found relevant for activities of the Space and Global Health Network.

One major advancement is the creation of a transdisciplinary taskforce as per the Space and Health Network's conclusions at the sixty-first session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (A/AC.105/C.1/2024/CRP.33). A Chair and Vice-Chair were appointed to lead this workstream and the taskforce now consists of 17 members.

The curriculum will focus on two main targets. Firstly, policy makers and decision-makers will be introduced to prominent issues on Space Technology and the use of space data to support current and nascent global health initiatives. Second, masters and doctoral students will explore space resources and public health challenges with more granularity. Two online MOOCs will be created to broaden the curriculum's appeal and efficacy.

Case studies will likely include the use of satellite imagery to track disease vectors, monitor climate or other several use cases discussed such as malaria, vaccination, telemedicine.

Finally, inclusivity was discussed as a prominent aspect in the development of the curriculum to be accessible for all the regions of the world. Dedicated subgroups within the taskforce will focus on essential deliverables.

Participants also mentioned various other ideas around law and regulations for eHealth applications in Space and on Earth or collecting existing material on climate change and environment.

In the upcoming months, the Space and Global Health Network will focus on advancing the work on the space and global health curriculum and technical interoperability with a workshop in the sidelines of the World Health Summit (13-15 October) in Berlin. In addition, a regional conference on Space and Global Health organized by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs in collaboration with the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean will take place in Santiago de Chile (14-18 October).

The Space Global Health Network agreed to have their next meeting in the margin of the sixty-second session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

Delegations are encouraged to join the Space and Global Health Network, using the statement of intent (<https://sgh.network/>) and are welcome to participate in the discussions and taskforces such as the one of the Curriculum.

Thank you for your kind attention and I wish you all the best for the rest of this session.