

**PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

**(Item 16 of COPUOS agenda)**

**Introductory Statement**

Proposed Programme Plan for the period 2026

Programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space

Mr. Driss El Hadani

Deputy Director, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs

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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 2026. The programme plan can be found in document A/80/6 (Sect.6) which was made available together with the CRP. Only Section A of document A/80/6 (Sect.6), more specifically paragraphs 6.1 to 6.24, is submitted for your consideration. The remaining part of the document pertains to OOSA's proposed programme budget for the same period.

As may be recalled, the annual session of the Committee often coincides with that of the General Assembly's subsidiary body for planning, programming, and coordination — the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC).

Typically, despite the overlap it was usually possible for the the Committee to provide its inputs to the programme plan before the CPC concluded its work.

This was not been possible this year as the CPC concluded its its session prior to the opening of COPUOS — specifically, on Tuesday, 13 June. The CPC considered the Office's draft programme plan for 2026 on 15 May and

subsequently held informal consultations. The views expressed by the delegations has been included in the CPC's report on the programme plan and can be found in its draft report under the symbol E/AC.51/2025/L.4/Add.6.

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 2027, to be prepared and submitted mid-January 2026.

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]** In line with the Office's 2024–2030 strategy and the “Space2030” Agenda, the Programme will further focus on several priorities:

- Supporting COPUOS and its Working Groups to advance inclusive and effective space governance;
- Enhancing Member States' access to space-based solutions for sustainable development, global health, climate action, agriculture, and disaster resilience;
- Expanding training, advisory, and legal assistance to help Member States adopt and implement the international legal framework on outer space;

- Leading the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to promote coherence and increase collaboration on space-related work among entities of the UN system;
- Scaling up flagship initiatives such as Access to Space for All, the UN Space Bridge, and the UN Days for Space Sustainability;
- Supporting Member States in the implementation of the Pact for the Future and preparations for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

**[READ only if needed]** To achieve these outcomes, the Office will continue to pursue partnerships with space agencies, research institutions, industry, and other stakeholders. These collaborations aim to broaden opportunities to access space for science, innovation, education, and capacity-building, particularly for developing countries and underrepresented regions.

Distinguished delegates,

Further details regarding the objective of the programme, its strategy, expected results, and planned deliverables in selected areas of work for the year 2026 are available in document A/80/6 (Section 6).

In conclusion, allow me to reaffirm the Office's continued dedication to advancing the peaceful exploration of outer space and promoting sustainable development. The Office remains committed to working in close cooperation with all Member States to ensure the safe and sustainable use of outer space and to enhance the societal benefits derived from space science and technology.

I thank you for your consideration.