

Agenda item 8. SPACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

The Group aligns itself with the Statement by the G77 and China under this agenda item and would like to reiterate the following points:

1. The Group underscores its firm conviction that the use and exploration of the outer space shall be carried out **exclusively for peaceful purposes, with the view to realizing a shared vision for the future, for the benefit and in the interests of all countries.**
2. The Group reiterates that the Outer Space Treaty (OST) and the General Assembly resolution on the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, provide the foundational principles guiding peaceful uses of Outer Space, including the promotion of international cooperation, scientific research and information sharing, as well as the obligation to conduct activities ***for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development (as per article one of OST).***
3. The Group notes, that in practice, developing countries continue to ***face significant challenges in fully benefiting from Space activities and space-based solutions.*** This includes both limited universal access to space infrastructure and data, as well as insufficient capacity to effectively apply such solutions and technologies to national development priorities.
4. The current landscape reflects a growing disparity in the ability of States to harness space applications for sustainable development, disaster management, and climate resilience, which undermines the spirit of inclusivity and equity enshrined in the Outer Space Treaty.
5. The group also notes that the rapid evolution of space activities has introduced new dynamics that risk exacerbating inequalities between spacefaring and non-spacefaring nations. Additionally, space actors are ***increasingly engaging in space activities that may disproportionately impact developing space faring nations,*** including through increased space traffic and risks of orbit congestion, proliferation of space debris, and widening the technological gap between developed and emerging space faring

The Group welcomes the informal consultations held on the topic of “Space for Development: International Cooperation and Implementing Benefit-sharing in Space Activities’ as presented by the African Group, Brazil, Iraq, Jordan, Mexico, Pakistan, and Panama. These consultations were held as per noted by the 64th session of the Legal Subcommittee.

The group notes the broad understanding and different views expressed by delegations during these consultations on the opportunities and challenges associated with advancing international cooperation and ensuring that space activities are conducted for the benefit of all Member States.

6. In this context, the Group requests that the Committee considers agreeing to continue considering this topic under the existing agenda item ‘*Space for Sustainable Development*’, and to continue informal consultations supported by the Secretariat and led by the co-sponsoring Member States. We suggest that these consultations will be held intersessionally and on the margins of the sessions of the Committee as well as the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee.
7. The group reiterates that this process will build on the existing work of the Committee and its Subcommittees, and will develop a consensual outcome document that would be presented for the consideration of COPUOS in 2026, and would be part of the outcomes of UNISPACE IV.
8. **The Group calls on all delegations to engage constructively in this initiative to advance a more inclusive and sustainable outer space governance framework.**