

60th Session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of
the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Statement by the United Arab Emirates

Agenda item 9 “Global navigation satellite systems”

Mr. Chair, Distinguished delegates,

It is my pleasure to take the floor in my capacity as Chair of the 16th Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG), which was held in Abu Dhabi, from 10 to 14 October 2022.

I would like to start with recognizing the efforts made by the United Arab Emirates to ensure the success of the 16th Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG), including the great level of organization and the smooth discussion management through-out the sessions.

The meeting was hosted by the United Arab Emirates Space Agency. There were over 250 attendees from 12 Member states of the United Nations and the European Union, and 22 member organizations. The Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services was recognized as a new observer of ICG. The representatives of Pakistan and Türkiye attended the meeting as invited observers.

The ICG meeting consisted of three plenary sessions and four working groups meetings focused on systems, signals and services; enhancement of GNSS performance, new services and capabilities; information dissemination and capacity-building; and reference frames, timing and applications. The working groups made substantive progress in furthering the ICG workplan.

An expert seminar entitled “Low Earth orbit positioning, navigation and timing” was held in conjunction with the meeting. The purpose of the seminar was to discuss low Earth orbit positioning, navigation and timing as a new concept whereby positioning, navigation and timing services could be offered through low Earth orbit satellite constellations.

The 26th meeting of the Providers’ Forum was held in conjunction with the 16th meeting of ICG. The Providers’ Forum continued to provide an effective multilateral mechanism for cooperation on GNSS and considered the following

topics: Lunar Search and Rescue (LunaSAR) update; Service performance monitoring; Spectrum protection and interference detection and mitigation; and Multi-GNSS demonstration project in the Asia-Oceania region.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished delegates,

ICG accepted the invitation extended by the European Commission to host the 17th meeting of ICG, in October 2023 in Madrid, and noted the offer made by New Zealand and Australia in jointly hosting the 18th meeting of ICG in New Zealand in 2024. ICG also note the expression of interest by the Republic of Korea in hosting the meeting of ICG in 2025.

The results of the ICG-16 and the Providers' Forum meetings can be found in document A/AC.105/1276. All documents from the meetings and presentations can be accessed through the ICG information portal on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs (www.unoosa.org).

In conclusion, allow me to express on behalf of the ICG our appreciation for the outstanding work undertaken by the Office for Outer Space Affairs as the Executive Secretariat of the ICG and its Providers' Forum.

Thank you Mr. Chair.