



Secretariat

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**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**

**Information furnished in conformity with the Convention
on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space**

**Letter dated 12 June 2006 from the Head of the Legal Department
of the European Space Agency to the Secretary-General**

In conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex), the rights and obligations of which the European Space Agency has declared its acceptance, the Agency has the honour to transmit information on the launching of its SSETI Express, Venus Express and GIOVE A satellites (see annex).

(Signed) Stefania **Barbieri**
Head, Legal Department



Annex

Registration of objects launched into outer space*

SSETI Express

Name of space object:	SSETI Express
COSPAR designator:	2005-043E
Name of launching authority:	European Space Agency (ESA)
Date of launch:	27 October 2005
Location of launch site:	Plesetsk, Russian Federation
Orbital parameters	
Nodal period:	98.67 minutes
Inclination:	98.19 degrees
Apogee:	707 kilometres
Perigee:	682 kilometres
General description of the space object:	<p>SSETI Express is the first pan-European student microsatellite, built by a team of university students and radio amateurs distributed throughout Europe (within ESA's Student Space Exploration and Technology Initiative) and sponsored by the Education Department of ESA.</p> <p>The SSETI Express mission is an educational mission that will deploy CUBESAT pico-satellites developed by universities, take pictures of Earth, act as a test-bed and technology demonstrator for hardware of the complementary project—the European Student Orbiter—and function as a radio transponder for the rest of its mission duration.</p>

Venus Express

Name of space object:	Venus Express
COSPAR designator:	2005-045A
Name of launching authority:	ESA
Date of launch:	9 November 2005
Location of launch site:	Baikonur, Kazakhstan
Orbital parameters:	Heliocentric transfer orbit to Venus
General description of the space object:	Venus Express will study the Earth's nearest planetary neighbour. In particular, Venus Express will study the Venusian atmosphere and clouds in unprecedented detail and accuracy.

* The registration data are reproduced in the form in which they were received.

GIOVE A

Name of space object:	GIOVE A
COSPAR designator:	2005-051A
Name of launching authority:	ESA
Date of launch:	28 December 2005
Location of launch site:	Baikonur, Kazakhstan
Orbital parameters	
Nodal period:	840.98 minutes
Inclination:	56.05 degrees
Apogee:	23,281 kilometres
Perigee:	23,228 kilometres
General description of the space object:	GIOVE A, or Galileo In-Orbit Validation Element A, is the first Galileo demonstrator in orbit, marking the very first step to full operability of Europe's new Global Navigation Satellite System.
