



# General Assembly

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**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space  
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee  
Fifty-second session  
Vienna, 2-13 February 2015**

## **Annotated provisional agenda**

### **Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Statement by the Chair.
3. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities.
4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications.
5. Space technology for socioeconomic development in the context of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the post-2015 development agenda.
6. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment.
7. Space debris.
8. Space-system-based disaster management support.
9. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems.
10. Space weather.
11. Near-Earth objects.
12. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space.
13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities.
14. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of

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space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.

15. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
16. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

### **Annotations\***

#### **2. Statement by the Chair**

The Chair will make a statement reviewing developments of relevance to the work of the Subcommittee that have taken place since its fifty-first session. After that statement, the Subcommittee will organize its schedule of work.

#### **3. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities**

The annual written reports submitted by Member States on their space activities (A/AC.105/1077 and Add.1) will be made available to the Subcommittee.

#### **4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications**

In paragraph 17 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly endorsed the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2015, as proposed to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space by the Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/1062) and endorsed by the Committee (A/69/20, para. 81).

The Subcommittee will have before it the report of the Expert on Space Applications (A/AC.105/1085), covering the implementation of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications in the biennium 2014-2015 and containing a list of States contributing to the Programme. The Subcommittee will also have before it reports on the following training courses, symposiums and workshops organized in the framework of the Programme:

(a) United Nations Expert Meeting on the International Space Station Benefits for Health, held in Vienna on 19 and 20 February 2014 (A/AC.105/1069);

(b) United Nations/Morocco International Conference on the Use of Space Technology for Water Management, held in Rabat from 1 to 4 April 2014 (A/AC.105/1073);

(c) United Nations/Austria Symposium on Space Science and the United Nations, held in Graz, Austria, from 22 to 24 September 2014 (A/AC.105/1082);

(d) United Nations/International Astronautical Federation Workshop on Space Technology for Socioeconomic Benefits, held in Toronto, Canada, from 26 to 28 September 2014 (A/AC.105/1081);

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\* The annotations and the indicative schedule of work are not part of the agenda to be adopted by the Subcommittee.

(e) United Nations/Mexico Symposium on Basic Space Technology: Making Space Technology Accessible and Affordable, held in Ensenada, Mexico, from 20 to 23 October 2014 (A/AC.105/1086);

(f) United Nations/Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics Workshop on the Use of Global Navigation Satellite Systems for Scientific Applications, held in Trieste, Italy, from 1 to 5 December 2014 (A/AC.105/1087).

#### **5. Space technology for socioeconomic development in the context of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the post-2015 development agenda**

In paragraph 8 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group of the Whole.

The Working Group of the Whole will consider the item on space technology for socioeconomic development in the context of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the post-2015 development agenda.

Recognizing the effective role of space science and technology and their applications for tele-health and tele-epidemiology, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-seventh session, endorsed the recommendation of the Subcommittee at its fifty-first session to establish an expert focus group on space and global health to consider issues related to the use of space technology for public health. The Committee agreed that the group should present, under the leadership of Canada, its method and programme of work, including a concrete timeline, to the Working Group of the Whole for its consideration at the fifty-second session of the Subcommittee (A/69/20, para. 99).

#### **7. Space debris**

In paragraphs 9 to 12 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly addressed the issue of space debris.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on national research on space debris, safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating to the collision of such space objects with space debris, containing information received by the Secretariat from Member States and international organizations (A/AC.105/C.1/109 and Add.1).

#### **8. Space-system-based disaster management support**

The Subcommittee will have before it a report on recent advances in the knowledge portal of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) (A/AC.105/1075); a report on activities carried out in 2014 in the framework of UN-SPIDER (A/AC.105/1078); a report on joint activities carried out in 2014 by the regional support offices of UN-SPIDER (A/AC.105/1079); a report on the United Nations/Germany Expert Meeting on the Use of Space-based Information for Flood and Drought Risk Reduction, held in Bonn, Germany, on 5 and 6 June 2014 (A/AC.105/1074); and a report on the United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Management: Multi-hazard Disaster Risk Assessment, held in Beijing from 15 to 17 September 2014 (A/AC.105/1076).

**9. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems**

In paragraph 19 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly noted with appreciation that the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems had held its Ninth Meeting in Prague from 10 to 14 November 2014.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the Ninth Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (A/AC.105/1083) and a report on activities carried out in 2014 in the framework of the workplan of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (A/AC.105/1084).

**10. Space weather**

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-seventh session, endorsed the recommendation of the Subcommittee at its fifty-first session to set up an expert group with a rapporteur under the agenda item on space weather, drawing on the best practices of the work of expert group C on space weather of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, with a programme of work to be considered at the fifty-second session. The Committee noted that, under the leadership of Canada, the programme of work of the newly established expert group would be presented to the Subcommittee at its fifty-second session (A/69/20, para. 146).

**11. Near-Earth objects**

In paragraph 10 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly noted with satisfaction that progress on establishing the International Asteroid Warning Network and a space mission planning advisory group to implement the recommendations for an international response to the near-Earth object impact threat would be reported to the Subcommittee at its fifty-second session (A/AC.105/1065, para. 167).

**12. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space**

In paragraph 8 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.

The Working Group will continue its work under the extended multi-year workplan for the period 2014-2017 (A/AC.105/1065, annex II, para. 9).

**13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities**

In paragraph 8 of its resolution 69/85, the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities.

The Working Group will continue its work in accordance with the extended programme of work for finalizing the report of the Working Group and the set of draft guidelines on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities (A/69/20, para. 199).

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat entitled “Updated set of draft guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities” (A/AC.105/C.1/L.340).

The Subcommittee will also have before it a working paper by the Chair of the Working Group entitled “Draft report of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities” (A/AC.105/C.1/L.343).

In accordance with an agreement reached by the Committee at its fifty-seventh session (A/69/20, paras. 372-374) the Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the views of States members of the Committee to the recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities (A/AC.105/1080).

**15. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**

In accordance with an agreement reached by the Committee at its forty-second session, discussion under the item on the draft provisional agenda for the Subcommittee should include identification of subjects to be dealt with as single issues or items for discussion or under the multi-year workplans. The proposal for the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Subcommittee will be submitted to the Committee at its fifty-eighth session, in 2015. The Working Group of the Whole will consider the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Subcommittee, as well as organizational matters of the Subcommittee.

*Symposium*

In accordance with the agreement reached by the Subcommittee at its forty-fourth session, in 2007 (A/AC.105/890, annex I, para. 24), and at its fifty-first session, in 2014 (A/AC.105/1065, para. 234), a symposium organized by the Committee on Space Research on the topic “Measuring the universe: looking back in time with modern astronomy” will be held in the afternoon of 2 February 2015.

*Organizational matters*

At its fifty-fourth session, the Committee endorsed the recommendations made by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-eighth session (A/AC.105/987, paras. 216-220) and by the Legal Subcommittee at its fiftieth session (A/AC.105/990, paras. 194 and 196-198) concerning the improvement and optimization of the methods of work of those subsidiary bodies (A/66/20, para. 298).

## Annex

### Organization of work

1. The work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee has been scheduled so as to afford the working groups that will be reconvened under items 5, 12, 13 and 15 the maximum amount of time available.
2. The number of statements to be made at each meeting under item 3, entitled “General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities”, may be limited, as necessary, in order to allow sufficient time for other agenda items to be considered as planned for each meeting. As a general rule, statements should not exceed 10 minutes, as agreed by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its fifty-fourth session, in 2011 (A/66/20, para. 298 (b)).
3. Technical presentations should not exceed 15 minutes and will be scheduled in accordance with the criteria established by the Committee at its fifty-fourth session, in 2011 (A/66/20, para. 298 (b)).
4. An indicative schedule of work is provided below. The indicative schedule of work is a general guide to the dates and times when items will be addressed during the session. The consideration of all items may be advanced, extended or delayed, depending on the requirements of the members of the Committee and any organizational constraints faced in the course of the session.

### Indicative schedule of work\*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
<b>Week of 2-6 February 2015</b>		
Monday, 2 February	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda Item 2. Statement by the Chair Item 3. General exchange of views	Symposium organized by the Committee on Space Research on the topic “Measuring the universe: looking back in time with modern astronomy”
Tuesday, 3 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 11. Near-Earth objects Item 13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities <sup>a</sup> Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 11. Near-Earth objects Item 13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities <sup>a</sup> Technical presentations

\* At its thirty-eighth session, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed that member States would continue to be provided with an indicative schedule of work, which would be without prejudice to the actual timing of consideration of specific agenda items (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/50/20)*, paras. 168 and 169 (b)).

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Wednesday, 4 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 11. Near-Earth objects Item 13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities <sup>a</sup> Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 10. Space weather Item 12. Nuclear power sources <sup>b</sup> Technical presentations
Thursday, 5 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 10. Space weather Item 12. Nuclear power sources <sup>b</sup> Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 10. Space weather Item 12. Nuclear power sources <sup>b</sup> Technical presentations
Friday, 6 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 5. Space technology for socioeconomic development <sup>c</sup> Item 7. Space debris Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 5. Space technology for socioeconomic development <sup>c</sup> Item 7. Space debris Technical presentations
<b>Week of 9-13 February 2015</b>		
Monday, 9 February	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 5. Space technology for socioeconomic development <sup>c</sup> Item 7. Space debris Technical presentations	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 9. Global navigation satellite systems
Tuesday, 10 February	Item 4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 8. Disaster management support Item 9. Global navigation satellite systems Technical presentations	Item 4. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 8. Disaster management support Item 9. Global navigation satellite systems Technical presentations
Wednesday, 11 February	Item 6. Remote sensing Item 8. Disaster management support Item 14. Geostationary orbit Technical presentations	Item 6. Remote sensing Item 14. Geostationary orbit Item 15. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Subcommittee <sup>c</sup> Technical presentations
Thursday, 12 February	Item 6. Remote sensing Item 14. Geostationary orbit Item 15. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Subcommittee <sup>c</sup> Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space Technical presentations	Item 15. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-third session of the Subcommittee <sup>c</sup> Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities Technical presentations
Friday, 13 February	Item 16. Report to the Committee	Item 16. Report to the Committee

<sup>a</sup> The Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 69/85, will meet during

the session for its consideration of item 13. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday, 12 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

<sup>b</sup> The Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 69/85, will meet during the session for its consideration of item 12. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday, 12 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

<sup>c</sup> The Working Group of the Whole, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 69/85, will meet during the session for its consideration of items 5 and 15. The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee will resume its consideration of those items on Thursday, 12 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

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