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English only

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

Legal Subcommittee

Fifty-fourth session

Vienna, 13-24 April 2015

**Item 13: Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses
of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the
Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fifth session***

**Proposal for a Single Issue/Item for discussion at the
fifty-fifth session of the Legal Subcommittee in 2016 on:
“Exchange of views on the concept of Space Traffic
Management”**

Submission by Germany

At the current session of Legal Subcommittee, the issue of Space Traffic Management (STM) was the theme of the IISL/ECSL Symposium, which took place on 13 April 2015. The presentations provided an excellent overview on the current state of academic research as well as elements of STM already implemented. It also highlighted various aspects of legal concern and provided ideas for further investigations on this issue.

Following this, the German delegation suggests to provide another opportunity for the delegations to exchange their views on the issue of STM and its potential relevance for the work of the Legal Subcommittee. It therefore proposes to inscribe a single issue item on “Exchange of views on the concept of Space Traffic Management” at the 2016 session of the Legal Subcommittee.

The purpose of such a single issue item would be to reflect on the concept of STM, on what it entails and on what consequences it would have for the organization and governance of space activities. In particular the contribution of STM to the safety of space operations benefitting all users of outer space (whether they are established users or recent and future users) could be investigated. The item would also provide the opportunity to discuss the status of academic research in that field and to

* A/AC.105/C.2/L.295.



possibly invite presentations on the technical as well as legal background of this issue. The results from the IISL/ECSL Symposium can act as starting points in this respect.

It should be stressed that such a single issue item on Space Traffic Management shall in no way lead to the elaboration of any legal text. It shall simply provide the forum for delegations to exchange their views on STM and to follow up on the IISL/ECSL Symposium to further reflect on the issues, which have been raised there.
