



# General Assembly

Distr.: Limited  
27 April 2006

Original: English

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**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space**  
Forty-ninth session  
Vienna, 7-16 June 2006

## **Provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session \***

### **I. Provisional agenda**

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Election of officers.
4. Statement by the Chairman.
5. General exchange of views.
6. Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes.
7. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III).
8. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session.
9. Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-fifth session.
10. Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status.
11. Space and society.
12. Space and water.
13. Recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society.
14. Other matters.
15. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

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\* This document was not submitted within the period required by the 10-week rule due to the finalization date of the report of the Legal Subcommittee of COPUOS on its forty-fifth session (Vienna, 3-13 April 2006).



## **II. Annotations\***

### **3. Election of officers**

In paragraph 57 of its resolution 60/99 of 8 December 2005, the General Assembly noted that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its forty-ninth session, would endorse the election of the officers of its Subcommittees and would elect its officers for the period 2006-2007. At its forty-eighth session, in 2005, the Committee noted the candidatures of Gérard Brachet (France), Elöd Both (Hungary) and Paul R. Tiendrebeogo (Burkina Faso) for the offices of Chairman, First Vice-Chairman and Second Vice-Chairman, respectively, of the Committee for the period 2006-2007.<sup>1</sup>

At its forty-third session, in 2006, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee elected B. N. Suresh (India) Chairman of its forty-third session and Mazlan Othman (Malaysia) Chairman of its forty-fourth session (A/AC.105/869, para. 9).

At its forty-fifth session, in 2006, the Legal Subcommittee elected Raimundo González Aninat (Chile) Chairman of the Subcommittee for a two-year term of office (A/AC.105/871, para. 3).

### **4. Statement by the Chairman**

Following the adoption of the agenda by the Committee and the election of its officers, and in accordance with the proposed organization of work, the Chairman of the Committee will make a statement reviewing developments of relevance to the work of the Committee that have taken place since its forty-eighth session.

### **5. General exchange of views**

The Committee will begin its substantive work with a general exchange of views.

### **6. Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes**

In paragraph 39 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly requested the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-first session, and agreed that during its consideration of the matter, the Committee could continue to consider ways to promote regional and interregional cooperation based on experiences stemming from the Space Conference of the Americas and the role space technology could play in the implementation of recommendations of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

### **7. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)**

In its resolution 59/2 of 20 October 2004, the General Assembly agreed that the Committee should continue to consider at its future sessions, starting with its forty-eighth session, the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

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\* The annotations and the indicative schedule of work are not part of the agenda to be adopted by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

(UNISPACE III) until the Committee considered that concrete results had been achieved.

#### **8. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session**

In accordance with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-third session considered the substantive items outlined below.

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

The report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session contains a review of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and its activities for 2005 and 2006 (A/AC.105/869, paras. 40-44). The Subcommittee recommended the approval of the proposed programme of activities for 2006 (A/AC.105/869, para. 44). A representative of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat will brief the Committee on the proposed activities for 2007.

In accordance with paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Subcommittee, in considering its agenda item on the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, reconvened the Working Group of the Whole. The Subcommittee endorsed the report of the Working Group, including the recommendations on the Programme (A/AC.105/869, para. 34 and annex I, paras. 3 and 4).

In paragraph 19 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly agreed that the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, should continue to report to the Committee on their activities on an annual basis.

In paragraph 47 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly agreed that the Committee should continue to consider a report on the activities of the International Satellite System for Search and Rescue as a part of its consideration of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee", and invited Member States to report on their activities regarding the System.

##### *Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)*

The deliberations of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its item on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 62-81).

In accordance with paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Working Group of the Whole was requested to consider the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III. The Subcommittee endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group concerning the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III (A/AC.105/869, para. 62 and annex I, paras. 5-16).

*Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment*

The deliberations of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on this item at its forty-third session are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 83-91).

*Space debris*

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered its agenda item on space debris in accordance with the workplan adopted at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex II, para. 6). The deliberations of the Subcommittee are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 93-114).

Pursuant to paragraph 14 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Subcommittee reconvened its Working Group on Space Debris to consider issues arising from its workplan and, in particular, the draft of the space debris mitigation document of the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group as contained in its report (A/AC.105/869, para. 101 and annex II).

*Use of nuclear power sources in outer space*

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered its agenda item on the use of nuclear power sources in outer space in accordance with the workplan adopted at its fortieth session (A/AC.105/804, annex III) and amended at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex III). The deliberations of the Subcommittee on the item are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 116-129).

The Subcommittee noted with satisfaction the successful conclusion of work of the Joint Technical Workshop on the Objectives, Scope and General Attributes of a Potential Technical Safety Framework for Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, which had been organized by the Subcommittee and the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna from 20 to 22 February 2006, pursuant to paragraph 16 of General Assembly resolution 60/99 (A/AC.105/869, para. 117).

Pursuant to paragraph 15 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Subcommittee at its forty-third session reconvened its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space. The report of the Working Group was endorsed by the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/869, para. 127 and annex III).

The Subcommittee endorsed the recommendation of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space that it continue intersessional work on the topics described in the multi-year workplan adopted by the Subcommittee at its fortieth session (A/AC.105/804, annex III) and amended at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex III). The Subcommittee noted that the Working Group had agreed to hold its intersessional meeting in Vienna from 12 to 14 June 2006, during the forty-ninth session of the Committee.

*Space-system-based telemedicine*

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee continued its consideration of the item on space-system-based telemedicine in accordance with the workplan adopted by the Committee at its forty-sixth session.<sup>2</sup> The deliberations of the Subcommittee on the item are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 131-141).

*Near-Earth objects*

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered the item on near-Earth objects in accordance with the three-year workplan adopted at its forty-first session (A/AC.105/823, annex II, para. 18) and amended at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex II). The deliberations of the Subcommittee on the item are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 143-152).

*Space-system-based disaster management support*

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered the item on space-system-based disaster management support in accordance with the three-year workplan adopted at its forty-first session (A/AC.105/823, annex II, para. 15) and amended at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex I). The deliberations of the Subcommittee on the item are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 154-176).

In accordance with the agreement of the Committee at its forty-eighth session,<sup>3</sup> the Subcommittee at its forty-third session had before it, for its review and for recommendation to the Committee, the study of the ad hoc expert group on the possibility of creating an international entity to provide for coordination and the means of realistically optimizing the effectiveness of space-based services for use in disaster management (A/AC.105/C.1/L.285).

The Subcommittee agreed, inter alia, on the following steps forward with regard to the work of the ad hoc expert group (A/AC.105/869, para. 163):

(a) The ad hoc expert group, with the assistance of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, should consult those responsible for implementing the initiatives mentioned in paragraph 160 of the report of the Subcommittee on its forty-third session (A/AC.105/869), with a view to reaching agreement on a division of tasks and how the proposed entity could contribute to achieving the objectives of those initiatives while enhancing the use of space technologies in disaster management, particularly in developing countries; the results of that coordination should be presented to the Committee at its forty-ninth session, in 2006, for its consideration;

(b) The ad hoc expert group should hold a meeting during the forty-ninth session of the Committee to finalize its report to the Committee, including a proposed implementation plan based on the secured commitments of support to be provided by member States to the proposed entity, and to propose a final name for the entity;

(c) The Committee, after its review, would make its recommendation to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session.

*International Heliophysical Year 2007*

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered its agenda item on International Heliophysical Year 2007 in accordance with the three-year workplan adopted at its forty-second session (A/AC.105/848, annex I). The deliberations of the Subcommittee on the item are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 178-188).

*Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and of its utilization and applications, including, inter alia, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries*

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee continued its consideration of this agenda item as a single issue/item for discussion. The deliberations of the Subcommittee on the item are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/869, paras. 190-196).

*Draft provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee*

Pursuant to paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Working Group of the Whole considered a draft provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. The Subcommittee endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole concerning the draft provisional agenda, as contained in the report of the Working Group (A/AC.105/869, para. 198 and annex I, para. 21).

The Working Group of the Whole recalled the agreement to continue the practice of alternating each year the organization of a symposium by the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) and the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) with the symposium to strengthen the partnership with industry. The Working Group of the Whole agreed that, in 2007, the symposium by COSPAR and IAF would be organized and the industry symposium would be suspended. The Working Group of the Whole recommended that the next symposium organized by COSPAR and IAF should be on the theme "Use of the equatorial orbit for space applications: challenges and opportunities". The Working Group of the Whole agreed that that symposium should be held during the first week of the forty-fourth session of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/869, annex I, paras. 24 and 25).

## **9. Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-fifth session**

In accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Legal Subcommittee at its forty-fifth session considered the substantive items below.

*Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space*

The Legal Subcommittee continued its consideration of this item of its agenda. The deliberations of the Subcommittee are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/871, paras. 33-54).

In accordance with paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Subcommittee reconvened its Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space. The Subcommittee endorsed the report of the Working Group (A/AC.105/871, para. 51 and annex I).

*Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law*

The Legal Subcommittee continued its consideration of this item of its agenda. The deliberations of the Subcommittee are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/871, paras. 56-76).

*Matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union*

The Legal Subcommittee continued its consideration of this item of its agenda. The deliberations of the Subcommittee are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/871, paras. 78-96).

In accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Legal Subcommittee reconvened its Working Group on this item only to consider matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space. The Subcommittee endorsed the report of the Working Group (A/AC.105/871, para. 95 and annex II).

*Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space*

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Legal Subcommittee continued its consideration of this item as a single issue/item for discussion. The deliberations of the Subcommittee are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/871, paras. 98-104).

*Examination and review of the developments concerning the draft protocol on matters specific to space assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment*

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Legal Subcommittee considered this item as a single issue/item for discussion. The deliberations of the Subcommittee are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/871, paras. 106-127).

*Practice of States and international organizations in registering space objects*

The Legal Subcommittee continued to consider this item of its agenda in accordance with the workplan adopted by the Committee at its forty-sixth session.<sup>4</sup> The deliberations of the Subcommittee are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/871, paras. 129-145).

In accordance with the workplan and pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 60/99, the Subcommittee reconvened its Working Group on the Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects. The Subcommittee endorsed the report of the Working Group (A/AC.105/871, para. 144 and annex III).

*Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its forty-sixth session*

The deliberations of the Legal Subcommittee on this item of its agenda are reflected in its report (A/AC.105/871, paras. 147-155). The Subcommittee agreed on the

items to be proposed to the Committee for inclusion in the agenda of the Subcommittee at its forty-sixth session (A/AC.105/871, para. 151).

**10. Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status**

In paragraph 48 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly requested the Committee to continue to consider, at its forty-ninth session, its agenda item entitled “Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status”.

**11. Space and society**

In paragraph 49 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly requested the Committee to continue to consider, at its forty-ninth session, under its agenda item entitled “Space and society”, the special theme for the focus of discussions for the period 2004-2006 “Space and education”, in accordance with the workplan adopted by the Committee at its forty-sixth session.<sup>5</sup> According to the workplan, the Committee at its forty-ninth session will: (a) develop specific, concrete action plans for incorporating outer space into education, enhancing education in space, expanding space tools for education and ensuring that space-based services contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal on access to education; and (b) prepare a brief document on the role of space in education, as well as the link between space and education, for transmission to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

**12. Space and water**

In paragraph 50 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly agreed that the Committee should continue to consider, at its forty-ninth session, its agenda item entitled “Space and water”.

At its forty-eighth session, in 2005, the Committee noted with appreciation a presentation on progress in preparing a pilot project that would apply space applications to the restoration of Lake Chad and the management of water resources in the Lake Chad basin. The Committee agreed to invite the representatives of those States involved in the pilot project to report to it at its forty-ninth session on the progress achieved in implementing the project.<sup>6</sup>

**13. Recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society**

In its resolution 59/2, the General Assembly requested the Committee to include items in the agendas of its future sessions, starting from its forty-ninth session, in 2006, to consider its contributions to the work of those entities responsible for convening United Nations conferences and/or for implementing their outcomes.

At its forty-eighth session, in 2005, the Committee agreed to consider, at its forty-ninth session, an item concerning the recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society and to consider at that session whether to retain the item on the agenda beyond 2006. The Committee also agreed that the International Telecommunication Union should be invited to brief the Committee on the recommendations of the World Summit and their implementation.<sup>7</sup>

In paragraph 51 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly agreed that a new item entitled “Recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society”

should be included in the agenda of the Committee at its forty-ninth session, with a view to contributing to their implementation.

#### 14. Other matters

##### *Composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2008-2009*

In paragraph 11 of its resolution 58/89 of 9 December 2003, the General Assembly endorsed the agreement reached by the Committee on the future composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies,<sup>8</sup> on the basis of the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies,<sup>9</sup> which had been endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 52/56 of 10 December 1997.

At its forty-eighth session, in 2005, the Committee noted that the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed the candidature of Filipe Duarte Santos (Portugal) for the office of Second Vice-Chairman/Rapporteur of the Committee for the period 2008-2009.<sup>10</sup>

##### *Future role and activities of the Committee*

In paragraph 53 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly noted with satisfaction that the Committee had agreed to consider, at its forty-ninth session, under its agenda item "Other matters", the evolution of space activities and how to develop a long-term plan to strengthen the role of the Committee in international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.<sup>11</sup>

##### *Report by the Secretary-General*

In paragraph 32 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its sixty-first session, through the Committee, a report on the inclusion of the issue of the use of space technology in the reports submitted by the Secretary-General to the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields, and its inclusion in the outcomes and commitments of those conferences and summits.

##### *Symposium*

In paragraph 52 of its resolution 60/99, the General Assembly agreed that a symposium on space and forests should be held during the forty-ninth session of the Committee. The symposium will be held on the afternoon of 12 June 2006.

##### *Other matters*

The Committee may wish to discuss matters other than those listed above as appropriate.

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/60/20 and Corr.1), para. 302.

- <sup>2</sup> Ibid., *Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/58/20)*, para. 138.
- <sup>3</sup> Ibid., *Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 20 and corrigendum (A/60/20 and Corr.1)*, paras. 57-58.
- <sup>4</sup> Ibid., *Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/58/20)*, para. 199.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid., para. 239.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid., *Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 20 and corrigendum (A/60/20 and Corr.1)*, paras 290-291.
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid., para. 73.
- <sup>8</sup> Ibid., *Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/58/20)*, annex II, paras. 5-9.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/52/20)*, annex I; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/58/20)*, annex II, appendix III.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibid., *Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 20 and corrigendum (A/60/20 and Corr.1)*, para. 305.
- <sup>11</sup> Ibid., paras. 316 and 317.

## Annex

## Indicative schedule of work\*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Wednesday, 7 June 2006	1	Opening of the session	5	General exchange of views
	2	Adoption of the agenda	6	Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes
	3	Election of officers		
	4	Statement by the Chairman		
	5	General exchange of views		
Thursday, 8 June 2006	5	General exchange of views	5	General exchange of views
	6	Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes	6	Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes
	7	Implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III	7	Implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III
Friday, 9 June 2006	7	Implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III	7	Implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III
	8	Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session	8	Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session
	9	Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-fifth session	9	Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-fifth session
Monday, 12 June 2006	8	Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session	8	Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session
	9	Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-fifth session		Symposium on space and forests
	10	Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status		
Tuesday, 13 June 2006	8	Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its forty-third session	10	Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status
	9	Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-fifth session	11	Space and society
	10	Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status	12	Space and water
	11	Space and society		

\* 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)*, para. 169 (b)).

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<i>Date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Wednesday, 14 June 2006	11	Space and society	11	Space and society
	12	Space and water	13	Recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society
	14	Other matters	14	Other matters
Thursday, 15 June 2006	12	Space and water	12	Space and water
	13	Recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society	13	Recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society
	14	Other matters	14	Other matters
Friday, 16 June 2006	15	Report of the Committee to the General Assembly	15	Report of the Committee to the General Assembly

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