

8 April 2019

English only

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Legal Subcommittee
Fifty-eighth session
Vienna, 1–12 April 2019
Item 14 of the provisional agenda*
General exchange of views on potential legal models
for activities in exploration, exploitation, and
utilization of space resources**

**Addendum on the Working Methods and Work Plan of the
Working Group proposed under document
A/AC.105/C.2/L.311 entitled “Proposal for the
establishment of a working group for the development of an
international regime for the utilization and exploitation of
space resources”**

Working paper by Belgium and Greece

Introduction

With respect to the proposal for the establishment of an ad hoc Working Group for the development of an international regime for the exploration, utilization and exploitation of space resources, the following additional elements are submitted for consideration by the Legal Sub Committee:

- The ad hoc Working Group will elect its Chair and Vice-Chairs at its first session;
- The ad hoc Working Group will develop a set of principles and potential legal models as a preliminary stage towards an international regime on the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.

Working Methods:

1. The ad hoc Working Group reports to the Legal Subcommittee.
2. The meetings of the Working Group are guided by the rules of procedure, methods of work and established practices related to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. The Working Group takes decisions by consensus.

* A/AC.105/C.2/L.308.



3. The Working Group will meet with interpretation services during the sessions of the Legal Subcommittee in 2020, 2021 and 2022. The Working Group may hold informal consultations on the margins of the sessions. The Working Group may also decide to hold intersessional meetings, as necessary, to advance its work.
4. The Working Group will engage with permanent observers of the Committee in accordance with rules of procedure, methods of work and established practices related to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. In accordance with its work plan below, the Working Group may decide – as appropriate – to engage with further non-governmental actors.
5. The Working Group will take advantage of electronic communication via the List of Focal Points of the Working Group to share information, and of a dedicated Working Group’s webpage on the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

Work plan (2020–2022)

2020:

- (a) The Working Group will invite presentations by governmental and non-governmental actors upon proposal by member States of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
- (b) The Working Group will compile factual information on the current status and nature of existing and planned activities aimed at or involving exploration, exploitation or utilization of natural resources of celestial bodies, inter alia based on notifications by Member States in line with Article XI of the Outer Space Treaty. The consideration of such notifications would only be aimed at finding a shared factual basis to facilitate legal discussions.
- (c) The Working Group will exchange ideas on possible elements for a set of principles and potential legal models of an international regime on the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.

2021:

The Working Group will consider the draft set of principles and potential legal models for an international regime on the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.

2022:

- (a) The Working Group will continue to consider and consolidate the draft set of principles and potential legal models for an international regime on the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.
- (b) A final consolidated draft set of principles and potential legal models for an international regime on the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources is to be presented to the Legal Subcommittee at its 61st session, in 2022.