



# General Assembly

Distr.: Limited  
12 April 2021

Original: English

**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space**  
Legal Subcommittee  
Sixtieth session  
Vienna, 31 May–11 June 2021

## Annotated provisional agenda

### Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Statement by the Chair.
3. General exchange of views.
4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law.
5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space.
6. Matters relating to:
  - (a) The definition and delimitation of outer space;
  - (b) 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.
7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.
8. Capacity-building in space law.
9. Future role and method of work of the Committee.
10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space.
12. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management.
13. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities.
14. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.



15. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-first session.
16. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

### **Annotations<sup>1</sup>**

#### **4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law**

The Subcommittee will have before it notes by the Secretariat containing information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law ([A/AC.105/C.2/115](#) and [A/AC.105/C.2/116](#)).

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

In its resolution [75/92](#), the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its sixtieth session, should reconvene its Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space.

The Subcommittee, at its fifty-sixth session, agreed that it would reconvene the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space for the duration of the multi-year workplan under UNISPACE+50 thematic priority 2, until 2020, in accordance with the established working method ([A/AC.105/1122](#), para. 73, and annex I, paras. 4 and 8).

The Subcommittee will have before it a working paper submitted by the Chair of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space entitled “Revised draft guidance document under UNISPACE+50 thematic priority 2. ‘Legal regime of outer space and global governance: current and future perspectives’” ([A/AC.105/C.2/L.313](#)).

#### **6. Matters relating to:**

- (a) **The definition and delimitation of outer space**
- (b) **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**

In its resolution [75/92](#), the General Assembly agreed that the Legal Subcommittee, at its sixtieth session, should reconvene its Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space.

At its thirty-ninth session, in 2000, the Subcommittee agreed that the Working Group would consider only matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space ([A/AC.105/738](#), para. 108).

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing information received from States members of the Committee on national legislation and practice relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space ([A/AC.105/865/Add.23](#), [A/AC.105/865/Add.24](#), [A/AC.105/865/Add.25](#) and [A/AC.105/865/Add.26](#)), a note by the Secretariat containing replies from States Members of the United Nations and permanent observers of the Committee to questions on suborbital flights for scientific missions and/or for human transportation ([A/AC.105/1039/Add.13](#), [A/AC.105/1039/Add.14](#), [A/AC.105/1039/Add.15](#), [A/AC.105/1039/Add.16](#) and [A/AC.105/1039/Add.17](#)), a note by the Secretariat containing views of States members and permanent observers of the Committee on the definition and delimitation of outer space ([A/AC.105/1112/Add.7](#), [A/AC.105/1112/Add.8](#), [A/AC.105/1112/Add.9](#) and [A/AC.105/1112/Add.10](#)), a note by the Secretariat

---

<sup>1</sup> The annotations and the indicative schedule of work are not part of the agenda to be adopted by the Subcommittee.

containing information relating to any practical case known that would warrant the definition and delimitation of outer space ([A/AC.105/1226](#) and [A/AC.105/1226/Add.1](#)) and an addendum to the report of the Secretariat containing a historical summary on the consideration of the question on the definition and delimitation of outer space ([A/AC.105/769/Add.1](#)).

#### **7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space**

Pursuant to the decision taken by written procedure by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Subcommittee ([A/75/20](#), para. 11), the Subcommittee will continue to consider the item on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.

The Subcommittee will have before it a working paper submitted by Australia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Viet Nam containing a report on the status of the national space legislation of countries of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum National Space Legislation Initiative ([A/AC.105/C.2/L.318](#)).

#### **8. Capacity-building in space law**

The Subcommittee will continue to consider the item on capacity-building in space law ([A/75/20](#), para. 11).

The Subcommittee will have before it the report on the United Nations/Turkey/Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization Conference on Space Law and Policy, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 23 to 26 September 2019 ([A/AC.105/1222](#)).

The Subcommittee will also have before it the report on the United Nations/Economic Commission for Africa Conference on Space Law and Policy, held online from 8 to 10 December 2020 ([A/AC.105/1242](#)).

#### **9. Future role and method of work of the Committee**

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its sixty-second session, agreed that a regular item entitled “Future role and methods of work of the Committee” was to be introduced on the agendas of both the Legal Subcommittee and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to allow for discussion of cross-cutting issues ([A/74/20](#), para. 321 (h)).

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat entitled “Governance and method of work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies” ([A/AC.105/C.1/L.384](#)).

#### **10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixtieth session ([A/75/20](#), para. 11).

#### **11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space**

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixtieth session ([A/75/20](#), para. 11).

**12. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management**

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixtieth session ([A/75/20](#), para. 11).

**13. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities**

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixtieth session ([A/75/20](#), para. 11).

**14. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources**

The Subcommittee will consider the item on general exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources as a single issue/item for discussion on the agenda of the Subcommittee at its sixtieth session ([A/75/20](#), paras. 6, 7 and 11).

The Committee, at its sixty-second session, endorsed the nomination by Belgium and Greece of Andrzej Misztal (Poland) as Moderator and Steven Freeland (Australia) as Vice-Moderator to lead the scheduled informal consultations during the fifty-ninth session of the Legal Subcommittee ([A/74/20](#), para. 258). The Subcommittee will have before it a draft plan for the scheduled informal consultations and comments received from States members of the Committee ([A/74/20](#), para. 259).

The Subcommittee will have before it a working paper submitted by Luxembourg and the Netherlands on building blocks for the development of an international framework on space resource activities ([A/AC.105/C.2/L.315](#)).

**15. Proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its sixty-first session**

At its sixtieth session, the Legal Subcommittee will submit its proposal to the Committee for the draft provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the Subcommittee.

*Symposium*

Pursuant to the decision taken by written procedure by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Subcommittee ([A/75/20](#), paras. 8 and 9), the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law are invited to organize a symposium to be held during the sixtieth session of the Legal Subcommittee. A symposium on the theme “Space law for the global space economy” will be held in the afternoon of 8 June 2021.

## Annex

### Organization of work

1. The work of the Legal Subcommittee at its sixtieth session has been scheduled without precedent for any future organization of work and taking into account the extraordinary situation caused by the global coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which has had unprecedented and multifaceted effects.
2. Owing to travel and meeting restrictions resulting from the pandemic, the session will be held in a hybrid format. If restrictions resulting from pandemic-related developments preclude the holding of the session in such a format, the Chair of the Subcommittee will convene consultations with a view to reaching consensus on an organization of work through a new decision.
3. Meetings with full interpretation services will be limited to two 2-hour meetings per day for the duration of the session.
4. The number of statements to be made at each meeting under item 3, entitled “General exchange of views”, may be limited, as necessary, in order to allow sufficient time for other agenda items to be considered as planned for each meeting. Statements should be limited to seven minutes in duration. The Chair should remind delegations when one minute remains and should interrupt the delivery of the statement when seven minutes have elapsed.
5. The Secretariat will upload statements that have been voluntarily submitted by States for uploading to the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs in a timely manner. Upon submitting statements for interpretation purposes, delegations are to inform the Secretariat as to whether the statement may be uploaded to the website.
6. Pursuant to the decision taken by written procedure by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Subcommittee ([A/75/20](#), paras. 30–32), the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda will meet during the sixtieth session of the Subcommittee, with interpretation services at its disposal. The Working Group will have before it a working paper submitted by its Bureau on a revised draft “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan ([A/AC.105/C.2/L.316](#)).
7. The work of the Subcommittee has been scheduled so as to afford the working groups that will be convened during the session the maximum amount of time available. Interpretation services will be provided for formal meetings of the working groups. Informal meetings of the working groups and informal consultations under agenda items, as deemed necessary, will be held without interpretation services. The scheduling of such informal meetings will take into account the desirability of avoiding overlap in their scheduling, to the maximum extent possible.
8. Presentations may be delivered in any of the six official languages of the United Nations. Owing to the limited meeting hours available with full interpretation services at the sixtieth session, no interpretation will be provided for the presentations, which will be scheduled from 10 to 11 a.m. and from 5 to 6 p.m. (Vienna time). The presentations should be closely linked to the agenda items of the Subcommittee and should not exceed 12 minutes in duration. Delegations will be reminded when 1 minute remains, and delivery of the presentation will be interrupted when 12 minutes have elapsed.
9. Delegations of States members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space may provide language-related comments on the reports of the working groups and the report of the Subcommittee adopted during the session within one week after the closure of the session.
10. An indicative schedule of work is provided below. It will be formally adopted at the first meeting of the Subcommittee. Any further changes to the indicative schedule may be decided by the Subcommittee no later than 48 hours before the start of the scheduled meeting.

**Indicative schedule of work<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning (11 a.m.–1 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Break (1–3 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Afternoon (3–5 p.m. Vienna time)</i>
<b>Week of 31 May–4 June 2021</b>			
Monday, 31 May	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda Item 2. Statement by the Chair Item 3. General exchange of views	Informal meeting of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space <sup>b</sup> Item 14. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources
Tuesday, 1 June	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 5. Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space <sup>b</sup> Item 14. General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources Meeting of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space	Informal meeting of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space <sup>c</sup> Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit Item 12. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management Scheduled informal consultations on space resources
Wednesday, 2 June	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 6 (a). The definition and delimitation of outer space <sup>c</sup> Item 6 (b). The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit Item 12. General exchange of views on the legal aspects of space traffic management Meeting of the Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space	Informal meeting of the Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law Item 13. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities Meeting of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda
Thursday, 3 June	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 4. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law	Informal meeting of the Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space Item 8. Capacity-building in space law Scheduled informal consultations on space resources

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning (11 a.m.–1 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Break (1–3 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Afternoon (3–5 p.m. Vienna time)</i>
	Item 13. General exchange of views on the application of international law to small-satellite activities Scheduled informal consultations on space resources		
Friday, 4 June	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 7. National legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space Item 8. Capacity-building in space law Scheduled informal consultations on space resources Meeting of the Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space	Informal meeting of Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee Scheduled informal consultations on space resources Meeting of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space
<b>Week of 7–11 June 2021</b>			
Monday, 7 June	Item 3. General exchange of views Item 10. General exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation and remediation measures, taking into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee Meeting of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda	Informal meeting of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda	Item 9. Future role and method of work of the Committee Item 11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space Item 15. Proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee Scheduled informal consultations on space resources
Tuesday, 8 June	Item 9. Future role and method of work of the Committee Item 11. General exchange of information on non-legally binding United Nations instruments on outer space Item 15. Proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee	Informal meeting of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda	Symposium organized by the International Institute of Space Law and the European Centre for Space Law on the theme “Space law for the global space economy”

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning (11 a.m.–1 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Break (1–3 p.m. Vienna time)</i>	<i>Afternoon (3–5 p.m. Vienna time)</i>
	Meeting of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda		
Wednesday, 9 June	Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space	Informal meeting of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda	Adoption of the summary report of the Working Group on the “Space2030” Agenda
	Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space		
Thursday, 10 June	Item 16. Report to the Committee		Item 16. Report to the Committee
Friday, 11 June	Item 16. Report to the Committee		Item 16. Report to the Committee

- <sup>a</sup> At its thirty-eighth session, in 1995, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed that the practice of allocating specific agenda items to particular meetings at a session should be ended and that, to assist in their planning, 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 (A/50/20, para. 169 (b)).
- <sup>b</sup> The Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 75/92, will meet during the session to consider item 5. The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 5 on Wednesday, 9 June, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.
- <sup>c</sup> The Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, to be reconvened in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 75/92, will meet during the session to consider item 6 (a). The Legal Subcommittee will resume its consideration of item 6 (a) on Wednesday, 9 June, in order to adopt the report of the Working Group.