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**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space  
Sixty-seventh session  
Vienna, 19–28 June 2024****Draft report****Addendum****Chapter II****Recommendations and decisions****B. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its  
sixty-first session****7. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities**

1. The Committee took note of the discussion by the Subcommittee under the item on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee ([A/AC.105/1307](#), paras. 159–183), and endorsed the decisions of the Subcommittee and of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, reconvened under the chairmanship of Umamaheswaran R. (India) ([A/AC.105/1279](#), para. 183, and annex II, paras. 10, 11 and 14–16).

2. The Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Working paper by the Chair of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities containing summaries, not representing consensus, of implementation experiences, opportunities for capacity-building and challenges ([A/AC.105/C.1/L.410/Rev.1](#));

(b) Report on the Workshop of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities ([A/AC.105/C.1/126](#));

(c) Non-paper submitted by the Chair of the Working Group dated 19 June 2024;

(d) Non-paper submitted by the Chair of the Working Group dated 24 June 2024.

3. The Committee was informed of a number of national, regional and international scientific, technical, legal and policy measures and initiatives that had been, or that were currently being undertaken, to support the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and to implement the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of



Outer Space Activities of the Committee (A/74/20, annex II), including within the private sector.

4. The Committee noted that the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities had held an online informal meeting on 16 May 2024, during which it had discussed approaches to categorizing challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, with a view to including the ideas of all member States.

5. The Committee noted that the Working Group had met both formally, with the benefit of interpretation services, and informally, during the present session.

6. The Committee noted that the Working Group had agreed to use the tables contained in the non-paper submitted by the Chair dated 19 June 2024, which included challenges related to implementation of the Guidelines, challenges related to capacity-building in the framework of the Guidelines, and the identification and consideration of existing and emerging challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, as a basis for subsequent substantive discussions. The Committee further noted that the tables were meant to facilitate discussions and not to anticipate final decisions.

7. The Committee noted that the Working Group had agreed that its members would fill in those tables, focusing on challenges and justifications, to the extent practicable, in the intersessional period, and would send related written inputs to the Chair and the secretariat by 16 September 2024.

8. The Committee noted that the Working Group had agreed that it would hold an informal online meeting in the period from October to November 2024. The Chair and the secretariat would compile and circulate the consolidated inputs on the tables in advance of the intersessional meeting in order to support the intersessional discussions.

9. The Committee noted that the Working Group would have before it, at the sixty-second session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, in 2025, a draft report, to be prepared by the Chair of the Working Group before the end of 2024 (see A/AC.105/1258, annex II, appendix, para. 18), which would be based on the outcomes of the intersessional meetings and on work undertaken during sessions of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Committee held since 2021.

10. Some delegations expressed the view that the adoption of the voluntary Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities had been the outcome of a multidimensional compromise and a delicate balance, and that that delicate balance should be preserved in the implementation of the workplan of the Working Group, taking into consideration the priorities and concerns of all member States, in particular those of developing countries.

11. Some delegations expressed the view that it was critical to make progress on the Working Group's agreed workplan by engaging in constructive, substantive discussions on challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, with a view to developing evidence-based recommendations.

12. Some delegations expressed the view that the Working Group should focus first on enumerating challenges, with all its members being able to add to the above-mentioned tables any challenges that they perceived, and that the criteria, justifications and rationale used for identifying challenges were an important part of the exercise.

13. Some delegations expressed the view that there was a need to add short descriptions to the challenges already included in the tables, in order to enhance a common understanding of the topics being discussed.

14. Some delegations expressed the view that the Working Group could produce a detailed compendium of experiences and best practices and that the content of each entry would not necessarily have to be agreed by consensus.

15. The view was expressed that developing countries lacking expertise and experience in space operations and space situational awareness had insufficient access to comprehensive data on the space environment, which hampered their ability to make informed decisions and to effectively participate in international space traffic management efforts.

16. The view was expressed that there was a long-standing proposal to unite the efforts of all participants in space activities through the development of a United Nations information platform serving common needs in the collection and provision of information on the monitoring of outer space objects, in the interest of ensuring the safety of space operations.

17. Some delegations expressed the view that the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities provided an effective framework for the ongoing development and implementation of rules and norms that supported the safety, stability and sustainability of outer space activities.

18. Some delegations expressed the view that the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities addressed ongoing challenges and that their global implementation and related capacity-building were essential to enhancing international cooperation.

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