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Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
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Draft report

Addendum

Chapter II

Recommendations and decisions

B. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its sixty-first session

1. The Committee took note with appreciation of the report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on its sixty-first session (A/AC.105/1307), which contained the results of its deliberations on the items considered by the Subcommittee in accordance with General Assembly resolution 78/72.

2. The Committee expressed its appreciation to Ulpia-Elena Botezatu (Romania) for her able leadership as Chair during the sixty-first session of the Subcommittee.

3. The representatives of Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, the United States and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) made statements under the item. The representative of Colombia made a statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. A statement was also made by the Coordinator of the Space and Global Health Network. The observers for COSPAR and Space Renaissance International also made statements. During the general exchange of views, statements relating to the item were also made by other member States.

4. The Committee heard the following presentations:

(a) “Non-governmental entity support for public/private sector data-sharing”, by the representative of the United Kingdom;

(b) “Access to Space for All: news and updates”, by the representative of the Office for Outer Space Affairs;

(c) “Protecting the dark and quiet sky is our joint responsibility. But have you ever wondered what’s your connection to the Big Bang?”, by the observer for IAU.

1. Space for sustainable development: technology and its applications, including the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

5. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on space for sustainable development: technology and its applications, including the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 53–72 and annex I).

6. The Committee endorsed the decisions and recommendations of the Subcommittee on the item (A/AC.105/1307, para. 72).

7. The Committee took note of the report of the Working Group of the Whole of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, reconvened under the chairmanship of Prakash Chauhan (India) as Chair (A/AC.105/1307, annex I).

8. The Committee noted that the Programme on Space Applications continued to implement the Access to Space for All initiative, which was focused on developing the capacity of Member States to access the benefits of space. In that regard, the Committee noted the activities of the Programme carried out in 2023 and those planned for 2024, as presented in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, para. 63), as well as the latest activities in CubeSat development, launch and deployment under the United Nations/Japan Cooperation Programme on CubeSat Deployment from the International Space Station Japanese Experiment Module (KiboCUBE) and the new opportunity for CubeSat deployment as part of cooperation between the United Nations and Exolaunch. The Committee also noted the opportunity made available to a team in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in relation to microgravity experiments and to a team in the Philippines in relation to hyper-gravity experiments.

9. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Office for Outer Space Affairs for the implementation of the activities of the Programme on Space Applications. The Committee also expressed its appreciation to the Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that had sponsored the activities. The Committee noted with satisfaction that further progress was being made in the implementation of the Programme's activities for 2024.

10. The Committee expressed its concern that the financial resources available to the Programme on Space Applications remained limited and emphasized that it was important that the Office for Outer Space Affairs be equipped with the necessary resources, including sufficient funding, to help ensure that the greatest number of countries had access to the benefits of space science and technology and their applications in line with the spirit of the Outer Space Treaty and the "Space2030" Agenda.

11. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Programme on Space Applications had continued to emphasize, promote and foster cooperation with Member States at the regional and global levels to support the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations.

12. The Committee noted that the Office for Outer Space Affairs continued to closely collaborate with the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations.

13. The Committee also noted that directors of the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, had held a meeting on 20 and 21 June 2024 to explore ways that the centres could increase cooperation between one another and further support the Office for Outer Space Affairs. In that connection, the Committee noted with appreciation that the host countries of the regional centres were providing significant financial and in-kind support to the centres.

14. The Committee welcomed a proposal by the Government of Uzbekistan to establish a regional centre for space science and technology education, affiliated to

the United Nations, in Uzbekistan. The Committee noted that the Office for Outer Space Affairs would facilitate an evaluation mission in that regard.

15. Some delegations called upon the Committee and the Office to provide greater support for the training programmes of the regional centres affiliated to the United Nations, and to conduct wider exchange and cooperation among different regional centres, including through the alliance of regional centres, with the aim of enhancing North-South and South-South cooperation to foster the development of technology among nations.

16. Some delegations called upon the Committee and the Office to provide more opportunities for academic networking, long-term fellowships and collaboration with national and regional institutions in the field of outer space, especially in developing countries.

17. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the International Satellite System for Search and Rescue (COSPAS-SARSAT), which provided worldwide coverage of emergency beacons, carried on vessels and aircraft and by individual users around the world, currently had 45 member States, and two organizations were formally associated with it. The Committee also noted that since the start of the programme, COSPAS-SARSAT had supported more than 50,000 rescues worldwide.

18. The Committee noted the existence of national, bilateral, regional and international programmes on remote sensing, in particular in the following areas: monitoring the broader impacts of climate change; land use and land cover monitoring; natural resource management; monitoring of forests and wildfires; detection of illegal fishing; monitoring of oil pipelines and the illegal tapping of oil pipelines; monitoring of protected marine areas and marine species; environmental monitoring; monitoring of the atmosphere, greenhouse gases and air pollution; urban planning; disaster management support; telehealth and epidemiology; watershed monitoring and development planning; irrigation infrastructure assessment; agriculture, horticulture and crop production forecasting; monitoring of desertification; snow and glacier monitoring; and monitoring of oceans, glacial lakes and other water bodies.

2. Space debris

19. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on space debris, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 73–99).

20. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the endorsement by the General Assembly, in its resolution 62/217, of the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space had proved vital in controlling the space debris problem for the safety of future space missions.

21. The Committee also noted with satisfaction that many States and international intergovernmental organizations were implementing space debris mitigation measures consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines and the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities of the Committee (A/74/20, annex II) and/or the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC), and that a number of States had harmonized their national space debris mitigation standards with those guidelines.

22. In addition, the Committee noted that many States and international organizations were using the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines and the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities of the Committee and the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of IADC as reference points in their regulatory frameworks for national space activities.

23. The Committee also noted that, in the area of space debris, some States were cooperating under the space surveillance and tracking support framework funded by

the European Union, integrating data, on-ground sensors and services in order to monitor space debris.

24. The Committee agreed that Member States and international organizations having permanent observer status with the Committee should continue to be invited to provide reports on research on space debris, the safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board, problems relating to the collision of such space objects with space debris and the ways in which debris mitigation guidelines were being implemented.

25. The Committee noted with appreciation that States had undertaken a number of actions to mitigate space debris, such as improving the design of launch vehicles, engines and spacecraft, developing special software, passivation, life extension, end-of-life operations and disposal. The Subcommittee noted the evolving technologies related to the in-orbit robotic servicing of satellites, the extension of satellite lifespans and active space debris removal.

26. The Committee noted the development and application of new technologies and ongoing research related to space debris mitigation; the protection of space systems from space debris; means of limiting the creation of additional space debris; re-entry and collision avoidance techniques; the measurement, characterization, continuous monitoring and modelling of space debris; the prediction, early warning and notification of space debris re-entry and collision; and space debris orbit evolution and fragmentation.

27. Some delegations expressed concerns about the proliferation of space debris, the potential hazards posed by the collision of debris with space objects and the consequences of the harmful contamination of outer space. The delegations expressing those concerns were also of the view that megaconstellations exacerbated challenges, including those related to collision risks and the sustainable use of orbits and frequencies, and that the Committee should address those challenges as a priority.

28. Some delegations highlighted the importance of strengthening the capacity of developing countries for the voluntary implementation of the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines and the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities of the Committee.

3. Space-system-based disaster management support

29. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on space-system-based disaster management support, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 100–118).

30. The Committee noted the importance of space-based information for disaster management and emergency response.

31. The Committee welcomed the activities organized by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), which supported the development of the capacity to use all types of space-based information in support of the full disaster management cycle. In that regard, the Committee noted the UN-SPIDER activities and capacity-strengthening efforts, including the generation of tailored space-based information for countries in need in 2023 (see A/AC.105/1310), which were carried out with the continued support of its network of partners, as well as the benefits of the UN-SPIDER knowledge portal (www.un-spider.org), a web-based platform for information, communication and process support that fostered the exchange of information, the sharing of experiences, capacity-building and technical advisory support and services.

32. Some delegations noted that UN-SPIDER was an important initiative as it promoted measures aimed at disaster prevention and mitigation.

33. Some delegations expressed the view that space science and technology and their applications were essential for effectively addressing natural disasters, which presented current and future challenges to social and economic development and

sustainability. The delegations expressing that view were also of the view that space science and technology offered many cross-cutting benefits in terms of disaster management and emergency response.

34. The view was expressed that mechanisms, applications and services, including the Charter on Cooperation to Achieve the Coordinated Use of Space Facilities in the Event of Natural or Technological Disasters (International Charter on Space and Major Disasters), were important areas of international cooperation that allowed States to reduce the harmful impact of natural disasters and contribute to relief efforts.

35. The view was expressed that satellite technology in low Earth orbit provided growing opportunities for supporting emergency preparedness and disaster response.

36. The view was expressed that the Committee should promote policies that strengthened data infrastructure, built resilience and mitigated the consequences of natural disasters.

37. The view was expressed that the use of space-based information and satellite observation data was essential in the area of disaster management and to mitigate the impact of climate change, and that UN-SPIDER was an important framework under which the application of space technologies, including the development of geospatial intelligence tools, could assist national authorities in their disaster risk reduction and management efforts.

38. The view was expressed that there was a need to improve natural disaster monitoring and response capabilities, and that satellite imagery had been instrumental in the conduct of assessments of the extent of damage and the coordination of relief efforts, underscoring its value in critical situations. The delegation expressing that view was also of the view that satellite technology was essential for monitoring increasing temperatures, which contributed to the frequency and severity of phenomena such as droughts and fires, and that space technology was vital for monitoring those risks and supporting decision-making regarding their management.

39. The Committee noted with appreciation the financial and staff resource contributions made by China, France and Germany to UN-SPIDER and the in-kind contributions, including the provision of experts, made by some States members of the Committee and by the regional support offices in 2023 in support of the activities conducted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs through UN-SPIDER, as well as their efforts to share experience with other interested countries. In that regard, the Committee encouraged other member States and permanent observers to provide to the activities and programmes of the Office, including UN-SPIDER, all necessary support on a voluntary basis, including increased financial support, to enable it to better respond to Member States' requests for assistance and to fully carry out its workplan in the coming years.

4. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems

40. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on recent developments in global navigation satellite systems (GNSS), as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 119–131).

41. The Committee had before it a note by the Secretariat on the seventeenth meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (A/AC.105/1304).

42. The Committee noted that the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems had continued to advance discussions on the interoperability and compatibility of GNSS and was aiming to create an interoperable, multi-GNSS space service volume, which would enable improved navigation for space operations beyond the geostationary Earth orbit, and that GNSS services were expected to be employed in cislunar space.

43. The Committee noted that the United Nations/Philippines workshop on the applications of GNSS was held in Manila from 22 to 26 April 2024 (see

A/AC.105/1313) and was an effective forum for discussing current GNSS technology trends and case studies, for defining the needs and requirements of end users of GNSS, and for providing a framework for scientific research enabled by such systems.

44. The Committee noted the efforts by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in promoting the use of GNSS through its capacity-building and information dissemination initiatives, as well as the role of the Office as the executive secretariat of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems in coordinating its annual meetings, its Providers' Forum and its working groups.

5. Space weather

45. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on space weather, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 132–143).

46. The Committee noted that space weather, caused by solar variability, was an international concern owing to its potential threat to space systems, human space flight, ground- and space-based infrastructure and aviation activity, upon which society increasingly relied. It therefore needed to be addressed in a global manner, through international cooperation and coordination, to make it possible to predict potentially severe space weather events and mitigate their impact in order to guarantee the safety and sustainability of outer space activities.

47. The Committee noted a number of national and international activities undertaken in the areas of research, training and education to improve scientific and technical understanding of the adverse effects of space weather.

48. The Committee noted that the coordination of sustained participation in relevant international space weather initiatives was important, including through emergency management protocols that would support coordinated response and recovery efforts.

6. Near-Earth objects

49. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on near-Earth objects, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 144–158).

50. The Committee had before it the following:

(a) A draft resolution on a United Nations-designated international year of asteroid awareness and planetary defence in 2029 (A/AC.105/L.339);

(b) Conference room paper submitted by Romania and co-sponsored by Mexico, containing a draft resolution on a United Nations-designated international year of asteroid awareness and planetary defence in 2029 (A/AC.105/2024/CRP.11).

51. The Committee welcomed the recommendation by the Subcommittee, at its sixty-first session, that 2029 be declared a United Nations-designated international year of asteroid awareness and planetary defence, dedicated to a worldwide campaign to raise awareness about asteroids and to highlight the collaborative efforts being undertaken by the Committee to mitigate the potential hazard posed by the impact on the Earth of near-Earth objects, and as an excellent opportunity for a global educational campaign about near-Earth objects. In that regard, the Committee took note of the guidelines for the proclamation of international years, contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 and related General Assembly resolutions 53/199 and 61/185.

52. The Committee noted that informal consultations were being held on the margins of the current session on a draft resolution on a United Nations-designated international year of asteroid awareness and planetary defence in 2029 by Romania.

53. The Committee noted the broad support for the proposed draft resolution on a United Nations-designated international year of asteroid awareness and planetary defence in 2029, submitted by Romania, and agreed that the draft resolution,

contained in annex I to the present report, would be put for a decision by States members of the Committee by means of a silence procedure by the end of September 2024, and thereafter, in accordance with the outcome, would be submitted by Romania to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, in 2024, for adoption by the Assembly under the agenda item entitled “International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space”.

54. The Committee noted with appreciation the work done by the International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN) and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group (SMPAG) to share information with regard to discovering, monitoring and physically characterizing potentially hazardous near-Earth objects in order to ensure that all nations, in particular developing countries with limited capacity to predict and mitigate the impact of a near-Earth object, were aware of the potential hazard of impact by an asteroid.

55. The Committee also noted the importance of national efforts and action plans aimed at developing capabilities in the discovery, observation, early warning and mitigation of potentially hazardous near-Earth objects that contributed to strengthening international collaboration and information-sharing, and in that regard highlighted the importance of contributing to the work of IAWN and SMPAG.

56. The Committee noted that, should a credible threat of impact be discovered by the Network, available information would be provided by IAWN and disseminated to all Member States through the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

57. The Committee also noted that further information on the meetings of IAWN and SMPAG, to which the Office for Outer Space Affairs served as the permanent secretariat, had been made available on their websites (http://iawn.net and http://smpag.net).

7. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities

[[…]]

8. Future role and method of work of the Committee

58. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on the future role and method of work of the Committee, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 184–213).

59. The Committee noted that informal consultations led by the delegation of Romania on the establishment of an action team to study a potential consultative mechanism for lunar activities within the framework of the Committee had been held on the margins of the sixty-first session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the sixty-third session of the Legal Subcommittee under the cross-cutting agenda item on the future role and method of work of the Committee, and that the final decision on the establishment of the action team would be made by the Committee at its current session.

9. Space and global health

60. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on space and global health, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 214–225).

61. The Committee had before it the following:

(a) Working paper prepared by the Coordinator of the Space and Global Health Network entitled “Draft long-term strategy on space and global health for the period 2025–2035” (A/AC.105/C.1/L.417);

(b) Conference room paper containing the report on the meetings of the Space and Global Health Network held on the margins of the sixty-seventh session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (A/AC.105/2024/CRP.18).

62. The Committee noted that the General Assembly, in its resolution 78/72, requested the Office for Outer Space Affairs to strengthen, within existing resources, capacity-building and networking in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, through regional technical cooperation projects, and to support field projects for strengthening collaboration between the space and global health sectors as an efficient strategy for making better use of space science and technology for access to global health for beneficiary States and taking better advantage of opportunities offered by bilateral or multilateral collaboration, as mandated by the Assembly in its resolution 77/120, entitled "Space and global health".

63. The Committee noted that the United Nations/World Health Organization International Conference on Space and Global Health had been held in Geneva from 1 to 3 November 2023 (see A/AC.105/1306) as the first major event since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 77/120, and that it had been attended by major stakeholders in the fields of space and global health. The Committee noted that participants in the Conference had recommended, inter alia, the creation of a space and global health curriculum and a short-term action plan and a longer-term strategy for the implementation of actions supporting the General Assembly resolution on space and global health.

64. The Committee also noted the meeting of the Space and Global Health Network held on 19 June 2024 on the margins of the current session, at which the Network reviewed its activities for 2024, including the following:

(a) The Geneva Digital Health Day, held in Geneva on 30 May, on the margins of the seventy-seventh session of the World Health Assembly;

(b) The Space and Global Health Hackathon, organized by the Geneva Digital Health Hub and ESA in Geneva from 30 May to 1 June;

(c) A workshop on advancing work on the space and global health curriculum and technical interoperability, to be held from 13 to 15 October on the sidelines of the World Health Summit in Berlin;

(d) A regional conference on space and global health planned to be organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago from 14 to 18 October.

65. The Committee took note of the draft long-term strategy on space and global health for the period 2025–2035 (A/AC.105/C.1/L.417) and agreed to issue the strategy under the symbol A/AC.105/C.1/127.

66. The Committee noted that the Space and Global Health Network had established an interdisciplinary task force to develop a curriculum on space and global health, which would introduce policymakers and decision-makers to prominent issues related to space technology and the use of space data to support current and nascent global health initiatives, and would provide students with an opportunity to explore space resources and public health challenges in greater detail.

67. The Committee recalled that Member States had been invited to identify experts and institutions and encourage them to participate in the Space and Global Health Network. In that regard, the Committee noted that delegations could join the Space and Global Health Network using the statement of intent available at https://sgh.network/, and encouraged delegations to participate in the discussions and task forces, such as the one established to develop the curriculum.

10. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

68. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on the use of nuclear power sources in outer space, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 226–241).

69. The Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Subcommittee and the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, reconvened

under the chairmanship of Leopold Summerer (Austria) under the five-year workplan of the Working Group for the period 2024–2028, including the recommendation that the Working Group hold intersessional meetings, facilitated by the secretariat, to further the objectives of the workplan (A/AC.105/1279, annex III, paras. 8 and 9; and A/AC.105/1307, annex III, paras. 6 and 8).

70. The Committee noted that one of the possible methods for collecting information under the objectives of the five-year workplan of the Working Group, and as a way to invite more member States and international intergovernmental organizations to join the Working Group and share their views, plans and experiences, could be the use of a dedicated list of questions in the form of a questionnaire.

71. In that connection, the Committee noted that the Working Group had held a series of intersessional meetings, facilitated by the secretariat, and that the Working Group had held two informal meetings on the margins of the current session, on 20 and 21 June 2024, to advance its work.

72. The view was expressed that the proliferation of nuclear power sources in outer space should not be allowed without first quantifying their impact on humans and the environment and establishing a regulatory framework that clearly established liability and enabled any critical situation arising from irresponsible practices to be addressed. The delegation expressing that view was also of the view that, while recognizing the need to use nuclear power sources in outer space to make interplanetary missions viable, the use of nuclear power sources in Earth orbits was high risk and therefore not admissible given the risk of collisions that posed a threat to humankind and the environment.

11. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including 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, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union

73. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on the examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including 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, without prejudice to the role of ITU, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 242–253).

74. Some delegations expressed the view that the geostationary orbit, as a limited natural resource clearly in danger of saturation, needed to be used in a way that ensured that countries had equitable access to those orbits and frequencies, taking into account the special needs of developing countries and the geographical situation of particular countries.

75. The view was expressed that the geostationary orbit should be utilized in a rational, balanced, efficient and equitable manner given its special characteristics.

12. Draft provisional agenda for the sixty-second session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

76. The Committee took note of the discussion of the Subcommittee under the item on the draft provisional agenda for its sixty-second session, as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 254–259).

77. The Committee endorsed the recommendations and decisions on the item made by the Subcommittee (A/AC.105/1307, paras. 255–259 and annex I, paras. 8–10).

78. The Committee noted that the secretariat had scheduled the sixty-second session of the Subcommittee to be held from 3 to 14 February 2025.

79. On the basis of the deliberations of the Subcommittee at its sixty-first session, the Committee agreed that the following items should be considered by the Subcommittee at its sixty-second session:

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Statement by the Chair.

3. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities.

4. Space for sustainable development: technology and its applications, including the United Nations Programme on Space Applications.

5. Space debris.

6. Space-system-based disaster management support.

7. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems.

8. Space weather.

9. Near-Earth objects.

10. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

    (Work for 2025 as reflected in the multi-year workplan of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities (see A/AC.105/1258, annex II, appendix, para. 18))

11. Future role and method of work of the Committee.

12. Space and global health.

13. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space.

    (Work for 2025 as reflected in the five-year workplan of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space (see A/AC.105/1279, annex III, para. 8; and A/AC.105/1307, annex III, para. 6))

14. Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including 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, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.

(Single issue/item for discussion)

15. Dark and quiet skies, astronomy and large constellations: addressing emerging issues and challenges.

(Single issue/item for discussion)

16. Draft provisional agenda for the sixty-third session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

17. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

80. The Committee agreed to include the item entitled “Dark and quiet skies, astronomy and large constellations: addressing emerging issues and challenges” on the provisional agenda of the Subcommittee for its sessions in 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028 and 2029 as a single issue/item for discussion. The Committee agreed that, under that item at the Subcommittee’s session in 2029, the Subcommittee would consider and decide whether to retain that item on its provisional agenda.

81. The Committee noted that the scope of the agenda item entitled “Dark and quiet skies, astronomy and large constellations: addressing emerging issues and challenges”

was to be closely linked to its title, within the mandate of the Committee and the remit of the Subcommittee.

82. Some delegations welcomed the establishment of the "Group of Friends for Dark and Quiet Skies" and its multi-stakeholder work to advance efforts to mitigate the effects of satellites and satellite constellations on astronomy.

83. The Committee agreed that the Working Group of the Whole, the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space and the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities should be reconvened at the sixty-second session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.

84. The Committee agreed that, in accordance with the agreement reached at the forty-fourth session of the Subcommittee, in 2007 (A/AC.105/890, annex I, para. 24), the symposium to be held at the sixty-second session of the Subcommittee, in 2025, was to be organized by IAF on the topic "Space for climate action".