

UNITED NATIONS  
INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES (UN-Space)

Forty-second session

17-19 October 2023, United Nations Global Service Centre (UNGSC), Brindisi, Italy

**DRAFT ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Update on the latest developments in the peaceful uses of outer space, including on the “Space2030” Agenda.
4. UN-Space special reports on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation.
5. Reports of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system.
6. UN-Space publications.
7. UNGSC services and products in support of the UN-Space community.
8. Coordination of future plans and programmes of common interest for cooperation and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas.
9. Organization of open session.
10. Any other business.

## Annotations\*

1. **Opening of the session.**
2. **Adoption of the agenda.**
3. **Update on the latest developments in the peaceful uses of outer space, including on the “Space2030” Agenda.**

At its 21st plenary meeting held on 25 October 2021, the General Assembly adopted, without a vote, resolution entitled “The ‘Space2030’ Agenda: space as a driver of sustainable development” ([A/RES/76/3](#)).

At the session, a representative of the Office for Outer Space Affairs will provide the Meeting with updated information on the latest developments in the peaceful uses of outer space, including on the “Space2030” Agenda.

4. **UN-Space special report on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation**

At its fortieth session, in 2003, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space endorsed the proposal to strengthen inter-agency cooperation in the use of outer space within the United Nations system, as recommended by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities at its twenty-third session. Based on a recommendation of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities ([A/AC.105/791](#) and [Corr.1](#), para. 30), the Subcommittee invited United Nations entities to submit annual reports on specific themes ([A/AC.105/804](#), paras. 93-95).

In response to that invitation, the Inter-Agency Meeting prepared in 2005 its first special report entitled “New and emerging technologies, applications and initiatives for space-related inter-agency cooperation” ([A/AC.105/843](#)).

At its 30th session in 2010, the Inter-Agency Meeting decided that special reports on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation shall be prepared on a biennial basis.

The subsequent special reports focused on themes: “Space benefits for Africa: contribution of the United Nations system” ([A/AC.105/941](#)) in 2009; “Use of space technology within the United Nations system to address climate change issues” ([A/AC.105/991](#)) in 2011; “Space for agriculture development and food security” ([A/AC.105/1042](#)) in 2013, “Space for global health” ([A/AC.105/1091](#)) in 2015; “Role of United Nations entities in supporting Member States in the implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities” ([A/AC.105/1116](#)) in 2016, “Space Weather” ([A/AC.105/1146](#)) in 2017, “Partnerships” ([A/AC.105/1200](#)) in 2019 and “Space for Climate Action” ([A/AC.105/1264](#)) in 2022.

At its thirty-eighth session held on 29 October 2018 in New York, UN-Space agreed that its future special report to be issued after 2020 could focus on the use of space science, technology and applications for water ([A/AC.105/1209](#), para. 43). At its forty-first session held from 7 to 8 December 2023 in Bangkok, UN-Space agreed that its special report to be presented to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-seventh session, in 2024, could focus on the Summit of the Future. UN-Space also agreed that the topic would be decided at its forty-second session, in 2023.

Participants are invited to discuss and agree on the focus and issuance date of the upcoming special report.

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\* The annotations are not part of the agenda to be adopted by UN-Space. The Meeting may choose to focus discussion on selected agenda items of interest to participants.

**5. Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system.**

The objective of the Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system is to enhance space-related inter-agency cooperation and coordination among United Nations entities and to avoid the duplication of efforts in the use of space applications.

At its thirtieth session held in Geneva on 10-12 March 2010, the United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities agreed that the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system served as a strategic tool for the United Nations to avoid duplication of efforts in the field of space science and technology, and that future reports should highlight efforts of the United Nations system in delivering as one on space-related activities for the development agenda.

At that session, the Meeting agreed that the reports of the Secretary-General should be issued on a biennial basis, starting with the period 2012-2013, and a review of this reporting structure should be made in 2017. The Meeting further agreed that in the year when there was no report of the Secretary-General, a special report on a selected topic should be considered (see item 4 above).

At its thirty-seventh session held in Geneva on 24 August 2017, UN-Space expressed its satisfaction with the existing reporting structure and agreed that reports of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system and special reports of UN-Space should continue to be issued biennially on an alternating basis.

In 2014 and 2016, the focus of the Secretary-General's reports was on addressing the post-2015 development agenda ([A/AC.105/1063](#)), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ([A/AC.105/1115](#)), respectively. The 2018 report was entitled "Coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2018–2019 — a United Nations that delivers" ([A/AC.105/1179](#)) and the 2020 report "Coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2020–2021 – megatrends and realization of the Sustainable Development Goals" ([A/AC.105/1230](#)).

The report published in 2023 covers the 2022-2023 period and focused on capacity-building for an inclusive future ([A/AC.105/1292](#)).

Participants are invited to propose and consider topics for future reports.

**6. UN-Space publication**

Publications produced by UN-Space include: Space Solutions for the World's Problems: How the United Nations family uses space technology for achieving development goals ([ST/SPACE/33](#)); [Space and climate change](#); Space for Agriculture Development and Food Security ([ST/SPACE/69](#)), and Space-related activities within the United Nations system ([ST/SPACE/84](#)).

Participants are invited to discuss possible future publications.

**7. UNGSC services and products in support of the UN-Space community.**

As the host entity to the forty-second session of the Meeting, UNGSC will share information and opportunities in relation to its services and products. Participants are invited to pose queries and discuss possible future collaboration.

**8. Coordination of future plans and programmes of common interest for cooperation and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas.**

The 75th Anniversary of the United Nations was marked in June 2020 with a declaration by Member States that included 12 overarching commitments along with a request to the Secretary-General for recommendations to address both current and future challenges. In September 2021, the Secretary-General responded with his report, Our Common Agenda, a wake-up call to speed up the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and propel the commitments contained in the UN75 Declaration.

In follow-up to Our Common Agenda and in preparation for the Summit of the Future in 2024, the Secretary-General has published a set of Policy Briefs to further expand on the analyses and recommendations from that report.

The Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 7, For All Humanity – the Future of Outer Space Governance, provides a practical set of governance recommendations for maximizing the opportunities of outer space while minimizing short-term and long-term risks, including the recommendations for United Nations entities: (a) to accelerate efforts to advance the equal participation of women in the aerospace sector, including through programmes that promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics education for girls. Partnerships with commercial actors in all regions should be considered to scale up these efforts; and (b) to increase their collaboration, including through the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), with a view to better coordinating their data-sharing, building United Nations system capacity and cooperating on the procurement of space-based information, to accelerate the application of space assets in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Participants will be invited to exchange views on the ways and means to increase their collaboration through the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space) with a view to better coordinating their data-sharing, building United Nations system capacity and cooperating on the procurement of space-based information, to accelerate the application of space assets in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Participants will also be invited to report on recent developments in space-related activities of their entities. Special consideration shall be given to activities that may be of interest to other United Nations entities participating in the framework of UN-Space, such as opportunities for cooperation or needs for coordination.

Following on the joint meeting of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Working Group on Capacity-building and Data Democracy and UN-Space, held in March 2023, which focused on the identification of needs of Member States and United Nations entities for capacity-building in the use of space-based observations (see [A/AC.105/1291](#)), UN-Space secretariat will make efforts to organize, at the forty-second session of UN-Space, the demonstrations of technologies and training on tools to meet such needs.

## **9. Organization of open sessions.**

The 19th open session of UN-Space is planned to take place on 19 October 2023 in Brindisi, Italy in conjunction with the forty-first meeting. The session will focus on the theme". "Space technology, Earth observation and integrated applications for disaster risk management and sustainable development".

## **10. Any other business.**

Participants are invited to discuss the date and venue of the 43rd session of UN-Space. Participants may wish to raise and discuss any other matters, as appropriate.