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**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Fifty-seventh session
Vienna, 3–14 February 2020**

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of the Chair.
3. Statement by the Chair.
4. General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities.
5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications.
6. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development.
7. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment.
8. Space debris.
9. Space-system-based disaster management support.
10. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems.
11. Space weather.
12. Near-Earth objects.
13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities.
14. Future role and method of work of the Committee.
15. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space.
16. Space and global health.
17. 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.



18. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee.
19. Report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Annotations¹

2. Election of the Chair

In paragraph 37 of its resolution [73/91](#), the General Assembly endorsed the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subcommittees for the period 2020–2021, and agreed that the Committee and its subcommittees should elect their officers at their respective sessions in 2020 in accordance with that composition.

At its sixty-first session, the Committee noted that the Western European and other States had endorsed the candidature of Natália Archinard (Switzerland) for the office of Chair of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee for the period 2020–2021 ([A/73/20](#), para. 369).

3. Statement by the Chair

The Chair will make a statement reviewing developments of relevance to the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee that have taken place since its fifty-sixth session. After that statement, the Subcommittee will organize its schedule of work.

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

The annual written reports submitted by Member States on their space activities will be made available to the Subcommittee ([A/AC.105/1211](#), [A/AC.105/1211/Add.1](#) and [A/AC.105/1211/Add.2](#)).

5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications

In paragraph 20 of its resolution [74/82](#) of 13 December 2019, the General Assembly recognized the capacity-building activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, which provided unique benefits for Member States, in particular developing countries, participating in those activities.

The Subcommittee will have before it the following documents:

- (a) Report on the United Nations/Romania International Conference on Space Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture and Precision Farming, held in Cluj-Napoca, Romania from 6 to 10 May 2019 ([A/AC.105/1214](#));
- (b) Report on the workshop on the International Space Weather Initiative, held in Trieste, Italy, from 20 to 24 May 2019 ([A/AC.105/1215](#));
- (c) Report on the workshop on the applications of global navigation satellite systems, held in Suva from 24 to 26 June 2019 ([A/AC.105/1216](#));
- (d) Report on the Workshop on the United Nations/Austria Symposium on Space: a Tool for Accessibility, Diplomacy and Cooperation, held in Graz, Austria, from 2 to 4 September 2019 ([A/AC.105/1220](#));
- (e) Report on the Workshop on Space Technology for Socioeconomic Benefits: “Ensuring inclusiveness through space-based applications and space exploration”, held in Washington, D.C., United States of America, from 18 to 20 October 2019 ([A/AC.105/1218](#)).

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

6. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development

In paragraph 10 of its resolution [74/82](#), the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group of the Whole.

The Working Group of the Whole will consider the item on space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development.

7. Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment

Pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution [74/82](#), the Subcommittee will continue its consideration of this item.

8. Space debris

In paragraphs 12 and 13 of its resolution [74/82](#), the General Assembly addressed the issue of space debris.

The Subcommittee will have before it a note by the Secretariat on national research on space debris, safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating to their collision with space debris. The note contains information the Secretariat has received from Member States and international organizations ([A/AC.105/C.1/116](#) and [A/AC.105/C.1/116/Add.1](#)).

9. Space-system-based disaster management support

In paragraph 21 of its resolution [74/82](#), the General Assembly recognized the significant achievements made and the advisory support provided to Member States within the framework of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) since its establishment in 2006.

The Subcommittee will have before it a report on the United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction on the theme "A policy perspective" and the commemoration of 10 years of the UN-SPIDER Beijing Office, held in Beijing on 11 and 12 September 2019 ([A/AC.105/1221](#)), and a report on activities carried out in 2019 in the framework of UN-SPIDER ([A/AC.105/1212](#)).

10. Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems

In paragraph 23 of its resolution [74/82](#), the General Assembly noted with satisfaction the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG) with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat, in its capacity as executive secretariat of ICG, towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries.

The Subcommittee will have before it a report on the activities carried out in 2019 in the framework of the ICG workplan ([A/AC.105/1213](#)) and a note by the Secretariat on the Fourteenth Meeting of ICG, held in Bengaluru, India, from 8 to 13 December 2019 ([A/AC.105/1217](#)).

11. Space weather

The Subcommittee will continue to consider the work being undertaken by the Expert Group on Space Weather ([A/AC.105/1202](#), paras. 191–209).

12. Near-Earth objects

In paragraph 11 of its resolution [74/82](#), the General Assembly noted with satisfaction the work carried out by the International Asteroid Warning Network and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group to strengthen international cooperation to mitigate the potential threat posed by near-Earth objects, with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs serving as the permanent secretariat of the Advisory Group.

The Subcommittee will continue to consider the work being undertaken by the Network and the Advisory Group ([A/AC.105/1202](#), paras. 210–228).

13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities

In paragraph 2 of its resolution [74/82](#), the General Assembly welcomed with appreciation the adoption by the Committee of the preamble and 21 guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, as contained in annex II to the report of the Committee on the work of its sixty-second session, and the establishment, under a five-year workplan, of a working group under the agenda item on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee; noted that the Committee had encouraged States and international intergovernmental organizations to voluntarily take measures to ensure that the guidelines were implemented to the greatest extent feasible and practicable; and emphasized that the Committee served as the principle forum for continued institutionalized dialogue on issues related to the implementation and review of the guidelines.

The Committee, at its sixty-second session, decided that the newly established working group would agree on its own terms of reference, methods of work and dedicated workplan at the fifty-seventh session of the Subcommittee ([A/74/20](#), para. 167).

The Committee agreed that the bureau of the working group would be elected at the beginning of the fifty-seventh session of the Subcommittee ([A/74/20](#), para. 166) and that the bureau would lead the development of the working group's (a) terms of reference; (b) methods of work, including ways of incorporating input from non-governmental organizations, industry and the private sector through States members of the Committee; and (c) workplan ([A/74/20](#), para. 168).

14. Future role and method of work of the Committee

At its sixty-second session, the Committee agreed that a regular item entitled "Future role and methods of work of the Committee" was to be introduced on the agendas of both subcommittees 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](#)).

15. Use of nuclear power sources in outer space

In paragraph 10 of its resolution [74/82](#), the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.

The Working Group will continue its work under the multi-year workplan for the period 2017–2021 ([A/AC.105/1138](#), annex II, para. 9).

The Subcommittee will have before it a document entitled "Preliminary analysis of how the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space contribute to the safety of space nuclear power source applications" ([A/AC.105/C.1/L.378](#)), prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, in collaboration with representatives of the delegation of France and of the European Space Agency.

16. Space and global health

In paragraph 10 of its resolution [74/82](#), the General Assembly agreed that the Subcommittee should reconvene its Working Group on Space and Global Health.

The Working Group will continue its work under its multi-year workplan ([A/AC.105/1202](#), annex III, appendix I).

The Working Group will have before it responses to the set of questions regarding policies, experiences and practices in the use of space science and technology for global health ([A/AC.105/C.1/117](#), [A/AC.105/C.1/117/Add.1](#) and [A/AC.105/C.1/117/Add.2](#)).

17. 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

Pursuant to paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution [74/82](#), the Subcommittee will continue its consideration of this item.

18. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

The draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Subcommittee, outlining subjects to be dealt with as single issues/items for discussion or under multi-year workplans, will be submitted to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-third session, in 2020.

The Working Group of the Whole will consider the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Subcommittee.

In accordance with the agreement reached by the Subcommittee at its forty-fourth session, in 2007 ([A/AC.105/890](#), annex I, para. 24), and by the Committee at its sixty-second session, in 2019 ([A/74/20](#), para. 185), a symposium organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs on the topic “Access to space for all” is to be held in the afternoon of 11 February 2020.

Annex

Organization of work

1. The work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee has been scheduled so as to afford the working groups that will be convened under items 6, 13, 15, 16 and 18 the maximum amount of time available.
2. In accordance with the decision, made by the Committee at its sixty-first session, to include on its agenda a new item entitled “‘Space2030’ agenda”, which was to remain on the Committee’s agenda until the sixty-third session of the Committee, in 2020, (A/73/20, paras. 358–363), the Working Group on a “Space2030” Agenda that was established under that item will meet during the fifty-seventh 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 draft “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan (A/AC.105/C.1/L.382).
3. The number of statements to be made at each meeting under item 4, entitled “General exchange of views and introduction of reports submitted on national activities”, 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 10 minutes in duration, the time-keeping device should be used in all sessions, and the Chair should remind delegations when 1 minute remains and should interrupt the delivery of the statement when 10 minutes have elapsed (A/70/20, para. 357; A/AC.105/1088, para. 275 (b); and A/74/20, para. 321 (b)).
4. Technical presentations should be limited to three per meeting, they should be closely linked to the agenda items of the Subcommittee and they should not exceed 15 minutes in duration (A/70/20, para. 357 and A/AC.105/1088, para. 275 (c)). The time-keeping device should be used for the delivery of presentations. The Chair should remind delegations when 1 minute remains and should interrupt the delivery of the presentation when 15 minutes have elapsed (A/74/20, para. 321 (c)).
5. An indicative schedule of work is provided below. The indicative schedule of work is a general guide to the dates and times when items will be addressed during the session. The consideration of all items may be advanced, extended or delayed, depending on the requirements of the members of the Subcommittee and any organizational constraints faced in the course of the session. The indicative schedule includes, for the first time, as requested by the Committee, information on working group meetings (A/74/20, para. 321 (e)).

Indicative schedule of work*

Date	Morning	Afternoon
Week of 3–7 February 2020		
Monday, 3 February	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda	Item 4. General exchange of views
	Item 2. Election of the Chair	Item 11. Space weather
	Item 3. Statement by the Chair	Item 13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities ^a
	Item 4. General exchange of views	

* At its thirty-eighth session, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space agreed that 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 (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/50/20)*, paras. 168 and 169 (b)).

<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Tuesday, 4 February	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 11. Space weather Item 13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities ^a Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on a “Space2030” Agenda	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 11. Space weather Item 13. Long-term sustainability of outer space activities ^a Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on Space and Global Health Meeting of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities
Wednesday, 5 February	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 8. Space debris Item 15. Nuclear power sources ^b Item 16. Space and global health ^c Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 8. Space debris Item 15. Nuclear power sources ^b Item 16. Space and global health ^c Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on Space and Global Health
Thursday, 6 February	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 8. Space debris Item 15. Nuclear power sources ^b Item 16. Space and global health ^c Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 6. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development ^d Item 12. Near-Earth objects Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on Space and Global Health Meeting of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space
Friday, 7 February	Item 6. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development ^d Item 12. Near-Earth objects Item 14. Future role and method of work of the Committee Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on a “Space2030” Agenda Meeting of the Working Group of the Whole	Item 6. Space technology for sustainable socioeconomic development ^d Item 12. Near-Earth objects Item 14. Future role and method of work of the Committee Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space

Week of 10–14 February 2020

Monday, 10 February	Item 5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 9. Disaster management support Item 14. Future role and method of work of the Committee Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on a “Space2030” Agenda	Item 4. General exchange of views Item 5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 9. Disaster management support Item 10. Global navigation satellite systems Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group of the Whole
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<i>Date</i>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
Tuesday, 11 February	Item 5. United Nations Programme on Space Applications Item 9. Disaster management support Item 10. Global navigation satellite systems Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities	Symposium organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs on the topic “Access to space for all”
Wednesday, 12 February	Item 7. Remote sensing Item 10. Global navigation satellite systems Item 17. Geostationary orbit Technical presentations Meeting of the Working Group on a “Space2030” Agenda Meeting of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities	Item 7. Remote sensing Item 17. Geostationary orbit Item 18. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Subcommittee ^d Technical presentations
Thursday, 13 February	Item 7. Remote sensing Item 17. Geostationary orbit Item 18. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Subcommittee ^d Technical presentations Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space Adoption of the report of the Working Group on Space and Global Health Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole	Item 18. Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Subcommittee ^d Technical presentations Adoption of the report of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities Adoption of the summary report of the Working Group on a “Space2030” Agenda
Friday, 14 February	Item 19. Report to the Committee	Item 19. Report to the Committee

^a The Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, to be convened pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 74/82, will meet during the session for its consideration of item 13. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday, 13 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

^b The Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 74/82, will meet during the session for its consideration of item 15. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday, 13 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

^c The Working Group on Space and Global Health, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 74/82, will meet during the session for its consideration of item 16. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of the item on Thursday, 13 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.

^d The Working Group of the Whole, to be reconvened pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 74/82, will meet during the session for its consideration of items 6 and 18. The Subcommittee will resume its consideration of those items on Thursday, 13 February, in order to endorse the report of the Working Group.