



# General Assembly

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**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space**  
Forty-seventh session  
Vienna, 2-11 June 2004

## **Draft report**

### **Addendum**

## **Chapter II**

### **Recommendations and decisions**

#### **B. Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/89, the Committee considered an item on the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III).
2. In accordance with paragraph 29 of resolution 58/89, the Committee, at its 518th meeting, on 2 June 2004, reconvened the working group to prepare a report for submission to the General Assembly, in order for the Assembly to review and appraise, at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III and to consider further action and initiatives. At the same meeting, Niklas Hedman (Sweden) was elected Chairman of the working group.
3. At its [...]th meeting, on [...] June 2004, the Committee endorsed the recommendations of the working group (see annex [...] to the present report) and approved the draft report of the Committee as finalized by the working group for submission to the General Assembly for use in its review and appraisal of the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III.



4. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/89, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-first session had convened the Working Group of the Whole to consider the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III. The Chairman of the Working Group of the Whole was Muhammad Nasim Shah (Pakistan).
5. The Committee had before it, for its consideration, the draft report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) (A/AC.105/L.255 and Add.1-8, A/AC.105/2004/CRP.6 and A/AC.105/2004/CRP.17).
6. The Committee heard the following presentations under this item:
  - (a) "Establishment of an internationally collaborated constellation system for global disaster and environmental prediction and monitoring", by Wang Keran of China;
  - (b) "Earth observations: bringing benefit to humankind", by C. Lautenbacher Jr. of the ad hoc Group on Earth Observations;
  - (c) "Satellite constellation 'Vulcan': monitoring of natural disasters and communications", by K. Boyarchuk of the Russian Federation.
7. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the chairpersons and members of the 12 action teams established by the Committee at its forty-fourth session and by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its fortieth session for their work and effort in making progress in the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III for which they were responsible.
8. The Committee noted with appreciation that 9 of the 12 action teams had submitted their final reports to the Committee at its forty-sixth session and to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its fortieth and forty-first sessions (A/AC.105/823, para. 60).
9. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects (recommendation 14) had presented its interim report to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-first session.
10. The Committee took note with satisfaction of the report of the Action Team on Knowledge-Sharing (recommendation 9) on the progress made in its work.
11. The Committee noted with appreciation that the action teams had identified a number of concrete and pragmatic actions for implementing pilot projects.
12. The Committee agreed that the establishment of action teams to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III prioritized by Member States following the Conference was a successful and innovative mechanism and that the inputs received from the action teams could serve to guide the work of the Committee.
13. The Committee stressed the importance of the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III. The Committee recalled that the responsibility to implement the recommendations rested with Member States, the Office for Outer Space Affairs, under the guidance of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, intergovernmental organizations for multilateral cooperation and other entities with space-related activities.

14. The Committee agreed that it was important to consider the links between the work of the Committee and the major global development agendas, in particular those of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in implementing the recommendations of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

15. The Committee noted that there were similarities between the work of the Committee and the issues being addressed through the ad hoc Group on Earth Observations, particularly with regard to the Committee's implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III. The Committee also noted that the ad hoc Group on Earth Observations had been established following the Earth Observation Summit, held in Washington, D.C., on 31 July 2003, for the purpose of developing a 10-year implementation plan towards the creation of a comprehensive, coordinated and sustained Earth-observing system of systems to enable the continuous monitoring of the state of the Earth, increase understanding of dynamic Earth processes, enhance prediction of the Earth system and further implement environmental treaty obligations. The Committee also noted that Member States, in particular developing countries, might wish to contribute to the efforts of the ad hoc Group to increase coordination and knowledge-sharing in space-based Earth observation.

16. The Committee noted that, among the activities being carried out by the pro tempore secretariat of the Fourth Space Conference of the Americas to implement the Plan of Action of the Conference,<sup>1</sup> the Government of Colombia was organizing a seminar entitled "Agenda of Aerospace Activities for Colombia: the Latin American Experience", to be held at Rio Negro, Medellin, Colombia, from 24 to 27 June 2004. The objective of the seminar was to exchange experiences in Latin America and the Caribbean and elsewhere on establishing a space entity in order to enhance access to socio-economic benefits from the use of space technologies.

17. The Committee noted that the General Assembly, in paragraph 41 of its resolution 58/89, had agreed that, during its consideration of the item on ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes, the Committee could consider ways to promote regional and interregional cooperation based on experiences stemming from the Space Conference of the Americas. The Committee also noted that, in paragraph 24 of the resolution, the Assembly had noted the desire of Member States in the Latin American and Caribbean region to institutionalize the Conference of the Americas.

18. The Committee noted that the annual report on the international celebration of World Space Week in 2003, prepared by the Space International Association in cooperation with the Office for Outer Space Affairs, had been made available in a special publication (ST/SPACE/23).

19. The Committee noted with appreciation the reports by Member States on the promotion and organization of public outreach activities in celebration of World Space Week.

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<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/57/20), annex II.*

20. The view was expressed that the implementation of the UNISPACE III recommendations would contribute significantly to addressing the challenges ahead, in particular poverty, environmental degradation, natural disasters and dwindling energy resources.
21. The view was expressed that the action teams should continue their work to further define and implement action plans by identifying the specific means, goals and tasks to complete those actions.
22. The view was expressed that, while the action teams had identified a number of concrete and pragmatic actions for implementing pilot projects, their full implementation would be hampered by insufficient funding. That delegation was of the view that developed countries could play a major role in assisting developing countries in implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE III by contributing to the trust fund of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, including by encouraging contributions from non-governmental entities and private industry, with sufficient flexibility to enable the Office to utilize the funds to implement the UNISPACE III recommendations in accordance with the priorities set by the Committee.
23. The view was expressed that the space community should consider preparing a specific articulation of the essential contribution made by space science and technology to the evolution of a global information society for submission to the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Tunis in November 2005.

#### **H. Composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2006-2007**

24. In accordance with paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 58/89 and pursuant to the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies as endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 52/56 of 10 December 1997, the Committee considered the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2006-2007.
25. The Committee noted that the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed the candidature of Gérard Brachet (France) for the office of Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for the period 2006-2007.
26. The Committee noted that the Group of African States had endorsed the candidature of Paul R. Tiendrebeogo (Burkina Faso) for the office of second Vice-Chairman/Rapporteur of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for the period 2006-2007.
27. The Committee noted that the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had endorsed the candidature of Raimundo González Aninat (Chile) for the office of Chairman of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for the period 2006-2007.
28. [...]

## **I. Other matters**

### **1. Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007**

29. The Committee had before it the strategic framework for the programme on the peaceful uses of outer space for the biennium 2006-2007 as contained in document A/59/6 (Prog. 5). The Committee agreed on the strategic framework.

30. The Committee noted that the strategic framework identified the priority areas for supporting the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III, including those of relevance to the actions recommended in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development<sup>2</sup> and the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society.

### **2. Membership of the Committee**

31. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/89, the Committee considered the application of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for membership in the Committee.

32. The Committee recalled the request of the General Assembly to conduct constructive consultations within the Committee as well as among regional groups, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution, with a view to reaching a positive and final decision on the membership of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya at the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

33. The Committee also noted the application of Thailand for membership in the Committee.

34. The Committee agreed that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Thailand should become full members of the Committee.

### **3. Participation in the work of the Committee**

35. In accordance with paragraph 48 of General Assembly resolution 58/89, the Committee considered ways to improve participation by member States and entities with observer status in its work. The Committee recalled that the Assembly, in its resolution 58/89, had requested the Committee to agree on specific recommendations in that regard at its forty-eighth session, in 2005.

36. [...]

### **4. New item on the agenda of the Committee**

37. [The Committee had before it a proposal by the Syrian Arab Republic for the inclusion of a new agenda item entitled "Space and archaeology" (A/AC.105/2004/CRP....).]

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<sup>2</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 2.

38. [The Committee agreed that the item should be included on the agenda for its forty-eighth session. On the basis of the work accomplished and progress made in 2005, the Committee would decide at that session whether to continue to include the item on its agenda.]

#### **5. Special presentation**

39. Taking into account the valuable contribution that Karl Doetsch (Canada), Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee during its thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth and fortieth sessions, had made to the work of the Committee, in particular his role in establishing a mechanism for implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE III, the Committee agreed that, at its forty-eighth session, he should give a special presentation on the scientific and technical aspects of the work of the Committee and the way ahead.

### **J. Schedule of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies**

40. The Committee agreed on the following tentative timetable for its session and those of its subcommittees in 2005:

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee	21 February-4 March 2005	Vienna
Legal Subcommittee	4-15 April 2005	Vienna
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space	8-17 June 2005	Vienna

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