



# General Assembly

Distr.: Limited  
15 June 2000

Original: English

---

**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space**  
Forty-third session  
Vienna, 7-16 June 2000

## **Draft report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

### **Addendum**

## **Chapter II**

### **Recommendations and decisions**

#### **B. Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee**

##### **[...] Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)**

1. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/68 of 6 December 1999, had taken note with satisfaction of the report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)<sup>1</sup> and had endorsed the resolution entitled “The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development”.<sup>2</sup> The Committee also noted that the Assembly had urged Governments, organs, organizations and programmes within the United Nations system as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and industries conducting space-related activities to take the necessary action for the effective implementation of the Vienna Declaration. The Committee further noted that the Assembly had called upon all concerned to implement the recommendations made by UNISPACE III as reflected in its report.

2. The Committee noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/67, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-seventh session convened the Working Group of the Whole, under the chairmanship of Muhammad Nasim Shah

---

<sup>1</sup> A/CONF.184/6.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1.

(Pakistan), to consider the future work of the Subcommittee in the light of the recommendations of UNISPACE III.

3. The Committee noted that the Working Group of the Whole had made recommendations on the following (A/AC.105/736, annex II):

(a) Mechanism to implement the strategy to address global challenges referred to in the Vienna Declaration;

(b) Organization, during the session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, of a symposium to strengthen the partnership of the Subcommittee with industry;

(c) Promotion of the participation of youth in space activities and the establishment of a consultative mechanism within the Committee to facilitate the continued participation of young people in cooperative space-related activities;

(d) Celebration of World Space Week from 4 to 10 October;

(e) Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and new and innovative funding sources to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

(f) Identification and promotion of the use of appropriate space technologies to meet the needs of programmes and organizations of the United Nations system;

(g) Strengthening of the activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications.

#### **Action taken by the Committee**

4. The Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole concerning the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III, as contained in its report (A/AC.105/736, annex II, paras. 3-37).

#### **(a) Plan of action proposed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III**

5. The Committee noted that the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/68, had requested the Secretary-General to recommend measures to ensure that the Office for Outer Space Affairs was provided with adequate resources to implement specific actions based on the recommendations of UNISPACE III. The Committee also noted that, in connection with that request, the Office for Outer Space Affairs had prepared and submitted to the Committee, for its consideration, a plan of action to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III (A/AC.105/L.224).

6. [An oral statement was made by the Secretary of the Committee on the programme budget implications of the plan of action. The text of the statement is contained in annex [...] to the present report.]

7. The Committee endorsed the plan of action proposed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

#### **(b) Working methods of the Committee for the implementation of the recommendations resulting from UNISPACE III**

8. The Committee had before it a proposal submitted by Canada and the United States of America regarding the creation of an informal working group on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III (A/AC.105/L.226). The Committee also had

before it a conference room paper (A/AC.105/2000/CRP.5) concerning an initiative undertaken under the auspices of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) to engage non-governmental entities in the implementation of selected recommendations resulting from UNISPACE III under the theme “Priorities for space activities in the twenty-first century”. The representative of IAF gave a presentation on that initiative.

9. The Committee held informal consultations on the working methods of the Committee for the implementation of the recommendations resulting from UNISPACE III and considered the proposal by Canada and the United States of America and the initiative undertaken under the auspices of IAF, mentioned in paragraph [...] above. The Committee had before it a conference room paper reflecting the results of the informal consultations (A/AC.105/2000/CRP.10).

10. The Committee agreed that its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee should be assigned the task of discussing and reaching a consensus on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III and their associated work plans and of reporting to the Committee each year the findings and recommendations of the Subcommittee to the Committee for final approval and/or modifications. The Committee also agreed that the Subcommittee should be charged, in the first instance, to conduct its deliberations on the matter in its Working Group of the Whole.

11. The Committee agreed that an item on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III should be included in the agenda of the forty-fourth to forty-seventh sessions of the Committee, in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004, to consider matters concerning the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III and related matters, such as the recommendations and reports of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the plan of action of the Office for Outer Space Affairs for the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III (A/AC.105/L.224) and the engagement of non-governmental entities. The Committee also agreed that the Committee would prepare a report under that agenda item for adoption at its forty-seventh session, in 2004, for review and evaluation by the General Assembly, on the progress made in implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE III, in accordance with Assembly resolution 54/68. The Committee further agreed that it should decide at its forty-seventh session, in 2004, whether to keep that item on its agenda. The Committee noted that it might wish to establish a working group of the whole (i.e. the full Committee temporarily operating in working group mode) during each session of the Committee for the discussion of some matters under that agenda item.

12. The Committee took note of the IAF initiative and other initiatives to engage non-governmental entities in the implementation of selected recommendations of UNISPACE III. The Committee agreed that those initiatives should be reviewed by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-eighth session, in 2001. The Subcommittee should report its findings and views on the modalities for the engagement of non-governmental entities during the forty-fourth session of the Committee. International and multinational non-governmental entities, including international scientific societies, would primarily interface with the Committee through the Office for Outer Space Affairs, which would ensure that the Committee and its Subcommittees were fully informed of the ongoing work of the initiatives of non-governmental entities. National organizations would continue to interface with the Committee through the delegations of their respective States.

**(c) World Space Week**

13. The Committee noted that the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/68, had declared 4-10 October World Space Week to celebrate each year at the international level the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of the human condition.

14. The Committee noted with satisfaction that some Member States had already planned activities to contribute to the celebration of World Space Week. Information on the planned activities by some of those Member States has been made available to the Committee in a conference room paper (A/AC.105/2000/CRP.4).

15. The Committee had before it a plan to celebrate World Space Week (A/AC.105/2000/CRP.3 and Add.1) that the Office for Outer Space Affairs had developed with the assistance of the Spaceweek International Association in accordance with a recommendation made by the Working Group of the Whole of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. The Committee heard a presentation by a representative of the Spaceweek International Association on its activities to celebrate World Space Week.

16. The Committee agreed upon the implementation of the plan of the Office for Outer Space Affairs to celebrate World Space Week (A/AC.105/2000/CRP.3 and Add.1).

17. Some delegations expressed the view that the celebration of World Space Week should remain an event of the United Nations and that the United Nations should assume responsibility for celebrating the Week. The assistance of associations would be considered favourably as long as they respected the responsibilities that belonged to the United Nations. It was necessary to ensure that World Space Week would continue to be celebrated in a manner that took into account the needs of developing countries.

18. The view was expressed that the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Spaceweek International Association should identify available resources to support activities in developing countries.

19. The view was expressed that the participation of the private sector in celebrating World Space Week should not undermine the role of the United Nations.

**(d) List of priority project proposals**

20. The Committee noted that the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/68, had requested the Secretary-General to invite all States to contribute voluntarily to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and, in his letter of invitation, to identify priority project proposals, on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, and had requested the Office for Outer Space Affairs to provide the Committee with a report listing those States which had responded to his invitation.

21. The Committee noted that the plan of action proposed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III (A/AC.105/L.224) contained a number of projects and activities that would be funded through both regular and extrabudgetary resources. The Committee had before it, for its consideration, a list of possible priority projects taken from the plan of action of the Office (A/AC.105/2000/CRP.8).

22. The Committee recommended that the following list of projects and activities should be included in the letter of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph [...] above:

(a) Support of operational activities of the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations (five at present), and the Network

of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions for Central Eastern and South-Eastern Europe;

(b) Development of disaster-specific modules and implementation of pilot projects in developing countries to introduce the use of space technologies in disaster management;

(c) Provision of satellite data and hardware and software to user institutions in developing countries to initiate or strengthen pilot projects that use Earth observation data for protecting the environment and management of natural resources;

(d) Development and implementation of a training module on the use of satellite communications for distance education, telemedicine and telehealth applications;

(e) Organization of outreach activities for young people and for the general public.

-----