



## Economic and Social Council

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### Committee for Programme and Coordination

#### Fiftieth session

7 June-2 July 2010

Agenda item 7

#### Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fiftieth session

### Draft report

*Rapporteur:* Mr. Félix Ayibanuah **Datuwei** (Nigeria)

#### Addendum

### Proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013

(Item 3(a))

#### Programme 5

#### Peaceful uses of outer space

1. At its 7th meeting, on 10 June 2010, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 (A/65/6 (Prog. 5)).
2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

#### Discussion

3. The work of the Office for Outer Space Affairs was recognized and commended. Support was expressed for the programme, particularly the importance of strengthening the capacity of developing countries in the use and applications of space science and technology for sustainable development and increasing awareness of decision makers of the benefits of space science and technology and their applications in addressing societal needs for sustainable development. Support was also expressed regarding the increased number of partnerships and/or synergies with other United Nations system organizations and international space-related entities in the use of space science and technology.



4. Clarification was sought regarding the use and ongoing research of outer space technology for military purposes and weaponization that may jeopardize the programme, and the views of the United Nations on this matter were sought.

5. The view was expressed that there is a need for greater transparency to ensure that the activities geared towards outer space are for peaceful purposes only, and not for military purposes or weaponization. The view was also expressed that actions should be taken to establish a working relationship between the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and the Committee on Disarmament.

6. Clarification was sought regarding the efforts of coordination and synergy undertaken with other United Nations programmes and agencies to ensure implementation of programmes in a complementary manner.

7. Questions were raised on how the Office plans to bridge the technological gap and increase access to and understanding of the use and benefits of outer space technologies in developing countries.

8. The view was expressed that the use of outer space applications can help bridge the gap between societies and it is important to share experiences and expertise on the implementation and use of outer space applications with developing countries. The importance of fully engaging developing countries in this process was emphasized.

9. The view was expressed that the objective of the programme seemed vague and clarification was sought on the respective performance measures for indicators of achievement a (i) and b (ii). Clarification was also sought on the number of partnerships formed as a result of the work of the Office and how developing countries would be measured.

#### **Conclusions and recommendations**

**10. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed strategic framework.**

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