



United Nations General Assembly

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Agenda item: International Code of Conduct for Peaceful Outer Space Activities

Sponsor: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Cuba, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, and Vietnam

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 65/97 of 10 December 2010, 65/271 of 7 April 2011, 66/71 of 9 December 2011, 67/113 of 18 December 2012, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 68/74 and 68/75 of 11 December 2013, 69/85 of 5 December 2014, 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 70/82 of 9 December 2015, 70/230 of 23 December 2015 and 71/90 of 6 December 2016, 72/77 of 7 December 2017,

Noting the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in space,

Recalling the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (Outer Space Treaty), especially article one that states that exploration and use of outer space shall be carried out for the benefit and interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind,

Also recalling article 11 of the Outer Space Treaty that requires State Parties to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations as well as the public and the international scientific community, of the nature, conduct, locations and results of activities in outer space, and that on receiving the information, the Secretary-General of the United Nations should be prepared to disseminate it immediately and effectively,

Recognizing that information obtained from space exploration such as location, weather, and disaster prevention greatly affect each country's social, economic, scientific and technological development, and *acknowledging* that there are both merits and demerits of sharing these information to other countries,

Taking into consideration the Charter of the United Nations Chapter VII e, and principally Referring to Article 51, which guarantees the right of individual and collective self-defense when Member States are under armed attack,

Concerned that space debris is increasing and causing harm to space missions as well as people on Earth, and is a threat to future outer space practices,

Recognizing that most underdeveloped countries in space development have not yet launched objects into space which have been creating space debris,

1. *Urges* ratification or accession to the Outer Space Treaty, and consideration of such acts to other international treaties governing the uses of outer space;
2. *Urges* all Member States to create an international treaty taking into consideration re-existing resolutions from 1996 to 2017 concerning the following content:
 - a) that all Member States pay more attention to the possibility of an arms race in outer space, also preventing the use of space development technology for military purposes,
 - b) that the Member States recognize the importance of international cooperation, including ways to promote regional and interregional cooperation to that end,
 - c) that the Member States put effort to reduce the unevenness in the development and access the information of technology concerning outer space, particularly for the benefit of developing countries;
3. *Requests* Member States to actively share information acquired through space exploration on disaster management with neighboring countries through:
 - a) conducting capacity building to fill in the technological gap in the following ways
 - i) hosting regular workshops to share information each country has found, reporting all information from each country to the national space agency of the most central country of the region, which will be selected through talks among area, when a cross-regional disaster happens, and that space agency will: give appropriate orders such as but not limited to evacuation orders and transportation of food and goods,
 - ii) summarize the information and make it apparent to the countries' citizens and the global society,
 - b) establishing Regional Support Offices (RSO) secured upon necessary treaties in each regions consisted of both satellite-holding countries and non-satellite holding countries in order to promote information sharing between countries within the region, and also urges these offices to report to United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) on an annual basis to ensure the non-military use of the offices and information,
 - c) obligating that if requested from RSO, satellite holding countries have the obligation to provide available information in the following occasions:
 - i) during or after fatal disasters, in order to assess the damage, and for crisis management,
 - ii) when the relevant country requires the information to resolve long-term issues such as environmental problems;

4. *Considers* that information obtained from outer space that are deemed critical by the Secretary General of the United Nations should be shared to all countries, or at least to areas that are deeply in relation;
5. *Emphasizes* the need of Member States when sharing information obtained from the outer space environment to consider the following and allow sharing to the greatest level inside the frameworks of the peaceful use of outer space:
 - a) establish a transparent information sharing system,
 - b) contemplate both the needs of the nation and the international interests upon sharing,
 - c) acknowledge the developing country's economic development and national security strengthening that will follow;
6. *Requests* that the sharing of information will be conducted by the collaboration of regional organizations with existing specialized international organizations including UNOOSA according to the type of information being shared and the requirements to manage that situation;
7. *Calls upon* countries developed in space technology to support their counterparts as in the following technological measures:
 - a) enhancing the data of observation, communications, and navigation satellites,
 - b) communicating necessary information for countries at the adequate timing,
 - c) establish a transparent information sharing system,
 - d) contemplate both the needs of the nation and the international interests upon sharing,
 - e) acknowledge the developing country's economic development and national security strengthening that will follow;
8. *Affirms* that sharing the information of communication satellites will raise the international communicative competence of regions;
9. *Condemns* the use of military reconnaissance satellites in outer space, and recognizes such use of outer space without the purpose of self-defense as a warlike action taken against all of the Member States;
10. *Urges* developed countries with the information on the technology needed for the removal of space debris to share with UNOOSA, and for UNOOSA to give the needed information to developing countries;
11. *Recognizes* that with international information sharing from satellites in operation, damage caused by space debris colliding into satellites will be a concern of all State Members including those that do not hold satellites currently;
12. *Urges* Member States in particular, developed countries to assist developing countries economically, technically and by the sharing of information gradually in the context of capacity development, in the

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, in order to develop a system which allows States to safely and efficiently get rid of space debris, for space development and crisis management within the following conditions:

- a) that enough fund, knowledge, and experts are provided annually from developed countries to United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), and UN-SPIDER which will aid developing countries to develop space technology, reducing and removing space debris, and establishing infrastructure including Space Agencies in cooperation with RSO in the region,
- b) that compulsory education, and international workshops will be held,
- c) that all Member States involved will report on these activities of capacity building to United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS) annually to ensure the meaningful use of aid provided to developing countries and that discussion for better capacity building is continued in UNCOPUOS • Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC),
- d) that Member States are provided information on medical care especially in areas of tele-health, tele-epidemiology, and telemedicine,
- e) that Member States are provided information for providing refugee support, food security, environmental problems and crime prevention,
- f) that developing countries provide land and labor aid in return;

13. *Urges* the UNCOPUOS to create specific plans and the UNOOSA to administer it, and apply the following factors to be applied when deciding the amount of space debris removal:

- a) the country's economic state and the progress of the space exploration, including its efforts to mitigate further space debris from occurring,
- b) its efforts to provide capacity building to States in need considering its technological support and funds on space debris,
- c) efforts to remove space debris that has been created already will be made by countries that have launched objects into space in the past, and that this should be coordinated by UNOOSA;

14. *Emphasizes* that the following factors are essential in the process of space debris removal:

- a) a cost effective technique,
- b) a close international cooperation with scientists in order to locate, approach, connect servicing device, control orientation, move the target object to the destined place, and development in the Space Situational Awareness system (SSA),
- c) safety of the public on ground, at sea, and traveling by air,
- d) the creation of a scientific guideline on space debris removal modeling the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;