Global Space Governance: The Role of COPUOS and UN-Space
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

- Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)
  - Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC)
    - 3 Working Groups (Whole; Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space; Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities): Expert Groups on space weather; global health
  - Legal Subcommittee (LSC)
    - 3 Working Groups (Status of United Nations Treaties on Outer Space; Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space; and Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space)

- Current issues - Space agenda today:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Space and climate change</th>
<th>Disaster Management</th>
<th>Space debris mitigation</th>
<th>National space legislation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International mechanisms for cooperation</td>
<td>Long-term sustainability of outer space activities</td>
<td>Definition and delimitation of outer space</td>
<td>Space applications for socioeconomic development</td>
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Coordination processes and platforms

- UNISPACE III+5 Action Teams (innovative approach in implementing recommendations of a major conference – States members took action and voluntarily coordinated activities under dedicated areas – result: ICG, UN-SPIDER, Global health, NEO)

- International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG)

- Recommendations on international response to near-Earth object impact threat: Space Mission Planning Advisory Group (SMPAG), and International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN)

- Procedures under the agenda item on long-term sustainability of outer space activities (Working Group and four Expert Groups)

- STSC expert groups on global health and space weather
UNISPACE+50

- 2018 Theme of STSC, LSC and COPUOS marking 50th anniversary of UNISPACE I held in 1968 and take stock of the contribution of the three UNISPACE conferences (I in 1968, II in 1982 and III in 1999) to global space governance (Proposal by troika of past, present, incoming Chairs of COPUOS)

- COPUOS unique platform for Interrelationship between major space faring nations and emerging space nations. Space agenda is evolving and becoming more complex. Broader concept of space security. Expanding commercial space sector

- Pillars for consideration: (a) governance; (b) capacity-building; (c) resiliency of space systems; (d) interoperability; (e) space for sustainable development

- No change in format of sessions. No additional cost. Group of Bureaux members (G-15), WG Chairs and Director OOSA to serve as steering committee. Report of COPUOS in 2018 labelled under the theme and dedicated GA resolution

- Secretary-General report under UN-Space in 2016 to explore how UN system interact and support Member States
The road to UNISPACE+50

- 2015 GA First and Fourth Committee joint meeting
- 2015 Tenth anniversary of ICG
- 2016 Tenth anniversary of UN-SPIDER
- 2016 Scheduled adoption of guidelines on LTS
- 2017 Fiftieth anniversary of OST
- 2017 Finalization of LSC agenda item on cooperation mechanisms
- 2018 Conclusion of work plan on socioeconomic development
UNISPACE+50 Thematic priorities and Synergies

- Thematic priorities of STSC, LSC and COPUOS building upon the cross-cutting topics of governance, capacity-building, resiliency, interoperability, and space for sustainable development

- Consideration of governance structures such as national spatial data infrastructures, regional and interregional coordination mechanisms; potential new mechanisms for resiliency and interoperability such as in the fields of DRR and NEO; TCBM and LTS within the broader context of space security

- Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and its outcome on a framework for disaster risk reduction for 2015-2030

- UN Summit in September 2015 to adopt the post-2015 development agenda, including SDGs

- COP 21 in Paris November-December 2015
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Goal (Number)</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UN/Indonesia International Conference on Integrated Space Technology Applications to Climate Change (September 2013)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN/Italy Long-term Fellowship Programme on Global Navigation Satellite Systems and Related Applications (2014)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Achieve universal primary education</td>
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<td>United Nations/Morocco International Conference on the Use of Space Technology for Water Management (United Nations, Morocco, ESA and PSIPW) (April, 2014)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Promote gender equality and empower women</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Union/International Astronautical Federation Workshop on Space Technology for Socio-Economic Benefits (September 2014)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Reduce child mortality</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN/Pakistan International Workshop on Integrated Use of Space Technology for Food and Water Security (March 2013)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Improve maternal health</td>
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<td>United Nations Expert Meeting on the International Space Station Benefits for Health (February 2014)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Ensure environmental sustainability</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>A global partnership for development</td>
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New Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Six Essential Elements for Delivering on the SDGs

(Secretary-General synthesis report (A/69/700))

- DIGNITY: To end poverty and fight inequalities
- PEOPLE: To ensure healthy lives, knowledge and the inclusion of women and children
- PROSPERITY: To grow a strong, inclusive and transformative economy
- PLANET: To protect our ecosystems for all societies and our children
- JUSTICE: To promote safe and peaceful societies and strong institutions
- PARTNERSHIP: To catalyse global solidarity for sustainable development
Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities

- Working Group of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities (extended work plan to 2016)

- Core thematic areas:
  - Sustainable space utilization supporting sustainable development on Earth
  - Space debris mitigation, safety of space operations, tools to support space situational awareness
  - Space weather
  - Regulatory regimes and guidance for actors in the space arena

- Areas of expert groups findings: Sustainable development objectives; spectrum protection; space debris mitigation; space debris monitoring; accuracy of orbital data; conjunction assessment (launch phase/orbital phase); space weather prediction and forecasting; registration information; regulatory practices; contact information; prior notice of launches and controlled re-entries; standards for sharing orbital information

- Interlink with the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities (A/68/189)

- 52nd session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in February 2015: Proposals for new draft guidelines, including on unified platform for near-Earth information and data sharing (Russian Federation), and security and resilience of shared critical infrastructures for space systems (USA)
GGE report on TCBMs in outer space activities

GGE report (A/68/189) and GA resolution 68/50

- **GGE-recommendations** include information on national space policy, military expenditure, notifications on status of space objects, safety of space operations (including collision avoidance, scheduled manoeuvres, re-entry risks, emergency situations, intentional break-ups), hazards (natural), visits

- **Resolution** decides to refer the recommendations of the GGE report to COPUOS, Disarmament Commission and Conference on Disarmament (CD) for consideration, as appropriate

- **COPUOS consideration:** GGE recommendations to be considered in 2015 (safety of space operations and long-term sustainability of outer space activities)

- **LTS Working Group** will during COPUOS review the recommendations of the GGE as far as LTS process is concerned

- **UN-system coordination** is encouraged by the resolution in operative paragraph 5; GGE report paragraph 66 recommends coordination between OOSA, ODA and other appropriate UN entities. Inter-agency mechanism could be useful (UN-Space decision at its 34th session 13 May 2014 to include GGE report as item on its agenda for 2015)

- **GA First and Fourth Committee** to hold joint ad hoc session at 70th session of the GA (recommended by GGE report in its paragraph 72 and by resolution on TCBMs at 69th session)
Inter-Agency Coordination on Outer Space Activities

- UN-Space: Secretary-General report on coordination of space activities in the UN system 2014-2015 – addressing the post-2015 development agenda;
- UN-Space: Special report on Space for Global Health (to be issued in 2015). In addition joint WHO/UNOOSA workshop in 2015;
- UN-Space: Secretary-General report to address UN system contribution to global space governance (planned for 2016-2017);
- GA/Fourth Committee panel discussion jointly with Division for Sustainable Development, DESA on post-2015 development agenda, held October 2014;
- UNOOSA/ITU Guidance on small satellite registration and frequency management, published April 2015
- Joint ICAO/UNOOSA Aerospace Symposium in Montreal, 18-20 March 2015
Key Events in 2015

- Proposed Official Working Sessions and side event at The Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in Sendai (14 – 18 March 2015)
  - “Earth observations to support national and local disaster-risk reduction initiatives”
  - Showcase how geospatial and space-based applications are used, identify the areas for improvement and launch international partnerships to facilitate their use

- UN/Germany International Conference – Global Solutions for the Challenges of Sustainable Development in Societies at Risk, in Bonn (26 – 28 May 2015)
  - Facilitate the coordination of global efforts by the space community and provide guidance to decision-makers from the disaster management and climate change communities
  - Identify ways in which Earth observations can be used explicitly to contribute to the implementation of the post-2015 frameworks (DRR, CC and SDGs)
  - UN-Space session planned in conjunction with the Bonn Conference to focus on space and climate change, disaster management, use of space-derived data and information

- High Level Forum on Space as Driver for Socio-economic Sustainable Development (planned to be held with United Arab Emirates in November 2015) – to address space economy, space society, space accessibility, space diplomacy
Conclusion

- With the fast approaching 2015 target date for Millennium Development Goals, focus is shifting to the post-2015 development agenda, where “Global Sustainable Development” not only implies the use of space tools, but also requires that space-related activities, as well as outer space environment itself, continue to be sustainable in the long-term.

- Near-earth environment is fragile and the broadening of application and space operations and the increased strategic value of space have resulted in a growing need to enhance the safety of space operations, security of space assets, and the long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

- Complexity of broader space security encompass security related measures as well as mechanisms for safety of space operations, handling of hazards either by natural causes (near-Earth objects and space weather) or man-made (in-orbit collisions, other emergency situations, loss of control, break-ups, re-entry risks).

- Global space governance may involve strengthened international mechanisms for transparency and confidence-building; space-traffic management; tools for space situational awareness.
Thank You

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