

Global Governance of Outer Space Activities

Conference on Space Traffic Management 'Building a common EU approach on STM' Brussels, 23 March 2022

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UNOOSA



UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs



Committee on the Peaceful Uses of outer Space (COPUOS)



1958 ad hoc body. 1959 established as permanent body (GA resolution 1472 (XIV))

- ❑ Developing international space law
 - Has created 5 treaties (OST, ARRA, LIAB, REG, MOON) and 5 principles (Legal Declaration, Television Broadcasting, Remote Sensing, NPS, Benefits Declaration)
 - Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines
 - Safety framework for nuclear power sources (NPS)
 - Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities (LTS Guidelines)
 - GA resolutions on launching State, registration practice, national space legislation. Study on international frameworks
- ❑ COPUOS has expanded the number of States members from 18 (1958) to 100 (2021). Has 42 permanent observer organizations (IGO and NGO)
- ❑ Two subcommittees: Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC) and Legal Subcommittee (LSC)
- ❑ COPUOS reports annually to GA Fourth Committee – resolution on “international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space”



100 States members of COPUOS

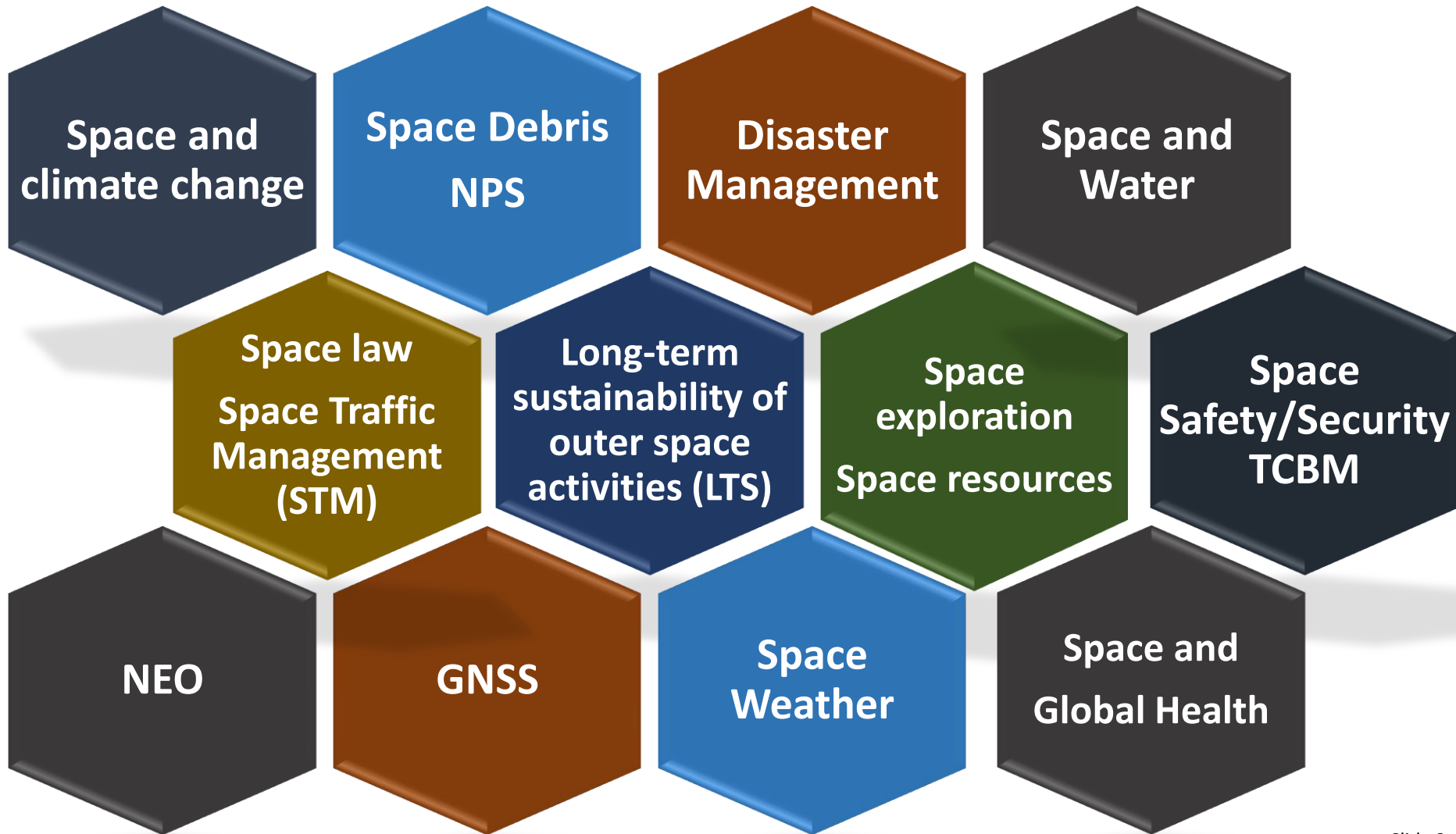
Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia

Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Cyprus, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mongolia, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Ukraine

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States





Preamble and 21 LTS Guidelines (A/74/20, annex II)

Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Not legally binding under international law

Any action taken towards their implementation should be consistent with the applicable principles and norms of international law

Nothing in the Guidelines should constitute a revision, qualification or reinterpretation of those principles and norms

Nothing in the Guidelines should be interpreted as giving rise to any new legal obligation for States

Reference to GGE-report on TCBM (safety, security and sustainability)



Adopted LTS Guidelines - key areas

- National regulatory frameworks (reference to GA resolution 68/74 on national space legislation);
- Supervision of national space activities (responsible national entities);
- Registration practice (reference to GA resolution 62/101 on registration practice);
- Safety of space operations (information exchange on space objects and events);
- Improve accuracy of orbital data;
- Sharing of space debris monitoring information;
- Conjunction assessments (all orbital phases of controlled flight/pre-launch);
- Share space weather data and forecasts/develop space weather models;
- Design and operation of space objects (including small satellites);
- Uncontrolled re-entry of space objects (risk assessment and consultation);
- Cooperation and capacity-building/scientific and technical research and development



Governance projection on promoting safety of space operations

- Enhanced capacity-building and awareness
 - Increased dialogue with private space actors
 - Organized reporting on the implementation of the LTS guidelines (A/74/20, annex II) and further development
 - Structured information exchange on space objects and events (including orbital collisions, break-ups, uncontrolled re-entries)
- STM...?



SG report “Our Common Agenda” (A/75/982)

The report looks ahead to the next 25 years and represents the Secretary-General’s vision on the future of global cooperation and reinvigorating inclusive, networked, and effective multilateralism.














United Nations



Outer Space is one of the key proposals under the 12 commitments

- ❖ multi-stakeholder dialogue on outer space as part of a Summit of the Future
- ❖ seek high-level political agreement on the peaceful, secure and sustainable use of outer space
- ❖ move towards a global regime to coordinate space traffic and agree on principles for the future governance

 LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND	 PROTECT OUR PLANET	 PROMOTE PEACE & PREVENT CONFLICTS	 ABIDE BY INTERNATIONAL LAW & ENSURE JUSTICE	 PLACE WOMEN & GIRLS AT THE CENTER	 BUILD TRUST
 IMPROVE DIGITAL COOPERATION	 UPGRADE THE UNITED NATIONS	 ENSURE SUSTAINABLE FINANCING	 BOOST PARTNERSHIPS	 LISTEN TO & WORK WITH YOUTH	 BE PREPARED

THANK YOU



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