

## Annex I

### Proposal by G77 and China as at 12 April AM

#### **Draft resolution on the fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: Space as a driver of sustainable development”**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2453 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 37/90 of 10 December 1982, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004 and 72/79 of 7 December 2017,

*Recognizing* that the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50), offers a unique opportunity for Member States to reflect on more than 50 years of achievement in space exploration and use, at a time when actors, both governmental and non-governmental, and private sector are increasingly getting involved in ventures to explore space and carry out space activities,

*Convinced* that UNISPACE+50 also offers a unique opportunity for Member States to look towards the future by strengthening the mandates of the Committee, its subsidiary bodies and the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat as unique platforms for international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space,

*Emphasizing* that for the past 50 years, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs have provided a unique and fundamental platform at the global level to promote international cooperation in space activities at all levels, foster dialogue among spacefaring and emerging space nations, increase capacity-building efforts for developing countries, and shape the space governance framework to benefit people and planet,

*Convinced*, therefore, that the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, and the commitments by those States Parties to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, require stronger coordination and support of those States at all international levels, including improved access to space-based data, applications and space infrastructure,

*Recognizing* that space science and technology and their applications have and will continue to have a significant role in implementing, achieving and contributing to the monitoring of the goals and targets of the comprehensive 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, [particularly in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet].

*Emphasizing* the need to build stronger partnerships and international cooperation and coordination in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space **among the States (G77 + China)** at all levels ~~levels and among the participants representing the broader space community (G77 + China)~~, in order to enhance the contribution of space activities for the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

*Reiterating* that all countries, irrespective of their degrees of economic or scientific development, are participants, contributors and beneficiaries of the exploration and peaceful use of outer space,

*Deeply concerned* about the fragility of the space environment and the challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in particular the impact of space debris, and recognizing the need of using space science and technology to preserve the Earth and the space environment as well as the role of international cooperation in this regard,

*[Note: OPTION 2] [Mindful [that the long-term sustainability of outer space activities is [defined as] the ability to maintain the conduct of space activities indefinitely into the future in a manner] of the need to realize / [that realizes] the objectives of equitable / enhanced access to the benefits of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, in order to meet the needs of the present generations while preserving the outer space environment for future generations in the interest of all humankind, (Supported by G77 + China as a separate paragraph, not as an alternative)*

*Convinced that [preserving the use of the outer space]/[the preservation of outer space] for current and future generations is consistent with upholding the long-standing principle contained in Article I of the Outer Space Treaty that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind, (NEW by G77 + China)*

*Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,*

*Recognizing that all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,*

*[Note: OPTION 1] Mindful of the need to promote universal, and safe [and] [equitable] access to the benefits of space as the scientific, technological, economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits of space activities-heritage of humankind, and in that regard, **(Supported by G77 + China as a separate paragraph, not as an alternative)***

*Also mindful of the importance of increasing[/expanding the] knowledge of outer space, including through enhanced enhanced access, on the basis of equality, equitable (G77 + China) access to astronomy and space science data for the benefit of humankind,*

*Convinced of the need for the Committee and its subcommittees to continue to address the emergence of commercial activities in outer space and consider how commercial actors might **responsibly (G77 + China)** support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,*

*~~Also Convinced, therefore, that the continuous growth and diversification of space activities should be attributed to combined and sustained efforts undertaken at the national, regional, interregional and international levels to foster international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space, (G77 + China)~~*

*Emphasizing the important role of initiatives undertaken at the national, regional, interregional and international levels in fostering international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space for the continuous growth and diversification of space activities;*

*Acknowledging that significant changes have occurred in the structure and content of space activities, as reflected in the emergence of new technologies and the increasing number of participants in such activities, and in this regard, recognizing the benefit of strengthening [national] regulatory frameworks,*

*Reiterating, in that regard, the role of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies as the cornerstone of the international legal regime governing outer space activities and that the Treaty manifests the fundamental principles of international space law, and convinced that the Treaty will continue to provide an indispensable framework for the conduct of outer space activities,*

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Committee, in preparation for UNISPACE+50, analysed the impact of the three UNISPACE Conferences held in 1968, 1982 and 1999, as well as the review undertaken in 2004, and assessed its past, present and future role, as well as those of its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs, within the five identified cross-cutting areas of governance, capacity-building, resiliency, interoperability and space for sustainable development, and noting with satisfaction also that that assessment provided the basis for the selection of seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50,<sup>1</sup>

*Noting with appreciation*, the outstanding work of the Committee and its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs carried out under the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50,<sup>2</sup> the related objectives and mechanisms in that regard, and all background documents in preparation for UNISPACE+50, [including the/a “Space2030” agenda] and within the framework of the four identified pillars, namely space economy, space society, space accessibility and space diplomacy<sup>3</sup>,

*Emphasizing* that the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50 represent a comprehensive strategy for addressing key areas that together determine core objectives for the future work of the Committee and its subcommittees and the Office in the areas of global partnership in space exploration and innovation; the legal regime of outer space and global governance: current and future perspectives; enhanced information exchange on space objects and events; international framework for space weather services; strengthened space cooperation for global health; international cooperation towards low-emission and resilient societies; and capacity-building for the twenty-first century,

*Welcoming* the UNISPACE+50 high-level segment, held in Vienna on 20 and 21 June 2018 that commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and marked a significant step in the ongoing development of a comprehensive strategy, based on the preparatory process, to strengthen the contribution of space activities and space tools to the achievement of the global agendas addressing long-term [sustainable] development concerns of humankind based on the peaceful exploration and use of outer space,

~~1. Notes with appreciation that the UNISPACE+50 [consultative] process resulted in documents articulating a cross-cutting and strategic vision, in which space is seen as a major driver and contributor to the Sustainable Development Goals, their targets and indicators and which strengthens international cooperation for that purpose;~~

1. Notes with appreciation that the UNISPACE+50 process resulted in documents aimed at articulating a cross-cutting and strategic vision to strengthen international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space, in which space is seen as, inter alia, a major driver and contributor to the Sustainable Development Goals for the benefit of all countries;

~~2. Invites the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to develop, based on the results of the UNISPACE+50 [consultative] process, a “Space2030” agenda and implementation plan that represents a broad, cross-cutting and strategic vision in which space is seen as a main driver and contributor to overarching development goals and strengthened international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, in particular for the benefit of developing countries, (G77 + China) and provide the General Assembly with the outcome of its work for consideration at the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly;~~

<sup>1</sup> See A/AC.105/L.297 and A/AC.105/1137.

<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/71/20)*, para. 296,

<sup>3</sup> See A/AC.105/L.297 and A/AC.105/1137.

2. Invites the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to continue to develop, based on the results of the UNISPACE+50 process, a “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan ~~[which are to be implemented on a voluntary basis]~~, and to provide the General Assembly with the outcome of its work for consideration by the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

3. Acknowledges the importance of global partnership and strengthened cooperation among Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and private sector entities in fulfilling the “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan;

7. *Encourages* all States to continue to contribute actively to and promote and strengthen international cooperation in peaceful use of outer space, for the objective of shaping a shared future for humankind, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries;

7bis. Further encourages member states to actively conduct bilateral, multilateral, regional and international space cooperation in various forms, including capacity building, information and infrastructure sharing, development of joint projects, and when appropriate, to integrate space cooperation with economic and development cooperation, in order to reduce the space divide and to assist countries in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

[8. *Agrees to strengthen the implementation of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in order to assist UN-SPIDER and its network of regional support offices in fully delivering under its established mandate and be able to adequately act in response to the needs of developing countries;*]

[9. *Emphasizes the importance of capacity building, education and training, undertaken by regional centers for space science and technology, affiliated to the United Nations, particularly for developing countries, and in this regard, encourages the enhancement of these regional centers as well as their alliance to improve their overall capacity;*]

4. *Emphasizes the need to take further coordinated action to ensure that space science, technology and their applications, are utilized for sustainable development and the betterment of humankind,*

7 ter: *Recognizes the role of COPUOS and its subcommittees as the unique platform for the reduction of the space divide, particularly through the promotion of international cooperation and capacity-building initiatives in cooperation with all stakeholders in the space field.*

5. *[Recognizes/Notes/Acknowledges, in that regard, the need to align the unique role and mandate of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, to fulfil / with a view to aligning the mandate with / to fulfil the proposed “Space2030” agenda and its implementation plan once agreed;]*

[6. *[Decides, in that regard, to]/[Reaffirms]/[Reiterates] the unique role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, supported by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, as the [prime intergovernmental platform]/[forum] for the discussion and resolution of issues affecting outer space activities, the promotion of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and the [negotiation of instruments pertaining to space activities] [development of space law], and, to this end, emphasizes the importance of strengthening the [mandates]/[activities] of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs, while encouraging Member States of the United Nations to become members of the Committee;*]

10. *Expresses its conviction* that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its subcommittees and the Office for Outer Space Affairs should continue to coordinate efforts to strengthen the implementation of the United Nations treaties and principles on outer space as a means of promoting the universality of the United Nations treaties on outer space;

11. *Invites* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the Office for Outer Space Affairs to enhance cooperation and coordination with other relevant entities within the United Nations system on space-related activities within existing resources;

12. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen the coordination and interrelationship between the Committee and its subcommittees, assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in addressing agenda items in a comprehensive, cross-cutting manner, combining scientific, technical, legal and policy dimensions, and to foster through its agendas the use and utility of space as a driver of global sustainable development towards 2030 and beyond;

13. *Calls* upon the Secretary-General to consider way to reprioritize resources in this regard to enable the Committee to fulfil its mandate in fully supporting Member States;

14. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide voluntary extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.