

 Permanent
Mission
of Austria

to the United
Nations in Vienna

AUSTRIA, ITEM 12

Use of space technology in the United Nations System

64th COPUOS (25.08. – 03.09.2021)

Mister Chair,
Excellencies – Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Austria expresses gratitude for the ongoing efforts of UNOOSA to achieve synergies and avoid duplication in the use of space technologies and applications within the UN and thanks for the present report on megatrends and realization of the Sustainable Development Goals.

As already stated under item 4 General Declaration and will be presented in more detail under item 11 Space and Climate Change, Austria has proposed with the Space4Climate Action Initiative that UNOOSA sets forth activities in the areas of 1) promotion of the use of space technologies, 2) technical support and 3) capacity building.

In line with this proposal, Austria suggests that the next report on the Coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system should have a dedicated focus on the use of space technologies to support climate action within the UN-System.

Recognizing the importance of the need for a strong United Nations inter agency coordination on “Space and Climate Action”, this report should lead to a detailed mapping

of the existing activities, so that we have an accurate view of current and planned activities within the UN system.

In summary, such a focused report could:

1. map the use of space technologies for climate action within the UN system to support the concrete definition of the proposed Space4Climate Action initiative
2. demonstrate that the areas of activity proposed for UNOOSA do not duplicate work or overlaps with existing activities in the UN system and
3. identify future possible synergies of space for climate action initiatives within the UN-system.

Chair, we ask that this proposal will be reflected in the report.

Thank you!