

UNITED NATIONS
INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES

Thirty-third session
12-14 March 2013
Geneva, Switzerland

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Coordination of plans and programmes and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas:
 - (a) Current and future plans of common interest, including consideration of how the activities of organizations of the United Nations system in the area of space science and technology and its applications relate to their mandated programmes;
 - (b) Special report on the theme of space for agriculture and food security;
 - (c) Preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2014-2015;
 - (d) Follow-up on activities and means of strengthening further inter-agency coordination and cooperation in space-related activities.
4. Use of spatial data and activities related to the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group and the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure.
5. Space and climate change.
6. Use of space-based technologies for disaster risk reduction and emergency response.
7. Other matters.

Annotations*

1. **Opening of the session**
2. **Adoption of the agenda**
3. **Coordination of plans and programmes and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas:**
 - (a) **Current and future plans of common interest, including consideration of how the activities of organizations of the United Nations system in the area of space science and technology and its applications relate to their mandated programmes**

Participants will be invited to report on recent developments in space-related activities of their entities. Special consideration shall be given to activities that may be of interest to other United Nations entities participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting, such as opportunities for cooperation or needs for coordination. To the extent possible presentations or statements should be limited to a maximum of ten minutes.

(b) **Special report on the theme of space for agriculture and food security**

The Meeting at its 29th and 31st sessions endorsed the special reports on “Space benefits for Africa: contribution of the United Nations system” (A/AC.105/941) and on the “Use of space technology within the United Nations system to address climate change issues” (A/AC.105/991), respectively, and decided at its 30th session that future special reports shall be prepared on a biennial basis and could address topics related to geospatial data infrastructure, the process of the World Summit on the Information Society, human security and humanitarian assistance, and any other emerging issues. At its 32nd session, the Meeting agreed that a special report addressing the use of space technology for agriculture and food security should be prepared under the leadership of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in cooperation with WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and with contributions from other United Nations entities, for endorsement by the Meeting at its thirty-third session, in 2013, and for submission to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its fifty-sixth session, in 2013. Participants are invited to adopt the draft Special report to be finalised at the 33rd session of the Meeting in 2013. Participants may wish to consider preparing a publication drawing on the main elements of the special report in order to reach a broader community.

(c) **Preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2014-2015**

The objective of the Report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system is to enhance space-related inter-agency cooperation and coordination among United Nations entities and to avoid the duplication of efforts in the use of space applications. Participant will be invited to decide on the theme of the report and to discuss the preparation of the report.

* The annotations are not part of the agenda adopted by the Inter-Agency Meeting.

(d) Means of strengthening further inter-agency coordination and cooperation in space-related activities

Participants will be invited to discuss means of inter-agency cooperation in space related activities as well as ways to enhance the existing or establish new means of inter-agency cooperation, including in the context of the outcome of Rio+20 and Post-2015 UN Development Agenda.

In its resolution 67/113 of 18 December 2012, the General Assembly welcomes the increased efforts to strengthen further the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate fully in the work of the Inter-Agency Meeting (A/RES/67/113, para. 25).

In the same resolution, the General Assembly urges entities of the United Nations system, particularly those participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting, to continue to examine, in cooperation with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration on the development agenda, particularly in the areas relating to, inter alia, food security and increasing opportunities for education.

United Nations entities participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting are requested to submit updated information on their space-related programmes for inclusion on the website dedicated to the coordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system, maintained by the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

The Meeting may wish to consider contributing to specific items on the agenda of the Committee, including space and society, space and water, space and climate change, space and sustainable development, long-term sustainability of outer space activities, and use of space technology in the United Nations system.

Immediately before its present session, on Tuesday, 12 March 2013, the Inter-Agency Meeting will hold its tenth open informal session, addressing the use of space technology for disaster risk reduction in the context of planning for resilient human settlements. The session will comprise two panels:

Panel A) Towards resilient cities: A wider use of geospatial data in urban planning;

Panel B) Mainstreaming space technology in land use planning and rural development strategies for effective disaster management.

4. Use of spatial data and activities related to the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group and the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure

The Meeting will be informed by UNGIWG representative on the latest activities of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group and developments in the implementation of the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure (UNSDI).

United Nations entities will be invited to present information and views on current and possible future activities within the United Nations system directly related to the use of space-derived geospatial information for sustainable development.

5. Space and climate change

At the 31st session of the Inter-Agency Meeting, the Special report on use of space technology within the United Nations system to address climate change issues (A/AC.105/991) had been prepared under the leadership of WMO in cooperation with

the Office for Outer Space Affairs and with contributions of other United Nations entities.

On the basis of the report, a brochure on Space and Climate change has been published and shipped to the United Nations Climate Change Conference, held in Durban in November 2011.

Participants will be invited to share experiences on the use by their organizations of space-based technologies to address issues related to climate change and will be invited to discuss further actions by the Inter-Agency Meeting on this issue.

6. Use of space-based technologies for disaster risk reduction and emergency response

At the session, a representative of the Office for Outer Space Affairs will provide the Meeting with information on developments regarding the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER).

Participants will be invited to share experiences on the use by their organizations of space-based technologies for disaster risk reduction and emergency response activities and projects and will be invited to discuss further actions by the Inter-Agency Meeting on this issue.

7. Other matters:

(a) Future programme of work

Participants will be invited to agree on the agenda, venue and schedule of the 34th session of the Meeting.

(b) Additional matters

The Meeting at its 32nd session recommended that efforts should be made with regard to the branding of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to enhance its visibility. One option raised at the Meeting was the title and acronym combination “Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-SPACE)”. A representative of the Office for Outer Space Affairs will provide update on the progress achieved with respect to rebranding of the meeting. Time permitting, additional matters that may come to the attention of the Inter-Agency Meeting will be discussed.