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INFORMATION CIRCULAR ON THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES (UN-SPACE)

The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA) is pleased to announce that the 34th session of the United Nations Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space) will be held on 13-14 May 2014 in New York. The session will be organized in conjunction with the 14th meeting of the United Nations Geographical Information Working Group (UNGIWG), scheduled to be held on 14-16 May 2014.

A half-day open informal session with participation of Member States will be organized in the morning of 14 May 2014 with the objective of promoting dialogue among United Nations entities, Member States and other stakeholders by demonstrating examples on the use of space technology within the United Nations system. A closed joint session of UN-Space and UNGIWG will also be held on 14 May 2014. A provisional agenda for the 34th session of UN-Space is enclosed. An agenda for the open session will be made available in due course on the website of the United Nations coordination of outer space activities (www.uncosa.unvienna.org). More information on the UNGIWG meeting is available at www.ungiwg.org.

Secretary-General's report on coordination of space related activities

United Nations entities are invited to contribute to the draft report by the Secretary-General entitled "Coordination of space related activities within the United Nations system: direction and anticipated results for the period 2014-2015," a unique and comprehensive source of information on the use of space science and technology within the United Nations system. The draft report is forecasted to be agreed and finalised electronically by March 2014; processed in all official United Nations languages in April; and presented to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its fifty-seventh session to be held on 11-20 June 2014 in Vienna.

Contributions by United Nations entities, containing an overview of their current and planned activities with the focus on the post-2015 development agenda, giving attention to the issue of resilience, should be submitted to the Office for Outer Space Affairs **no later than 31 January 2014**. An outline of the report has been circulated among United Nations entities for their inputs in December 2013 by e-mail. Entities wishing to provide inputs to the report should contact the Secretariat of UN-Space (Please refer to the "Contacts" section below).

Background to the Inter-Agency Meeting:

The Inter-Agency Meeting is a mechanism set up in mid-1970s to promote collaboration, synergy, exchange of information and coordination of plans and programmes of United Nations entities (departments, offices, funds, programmes and specialized agencies) in the implementation of activities involving the use of space technology and its applications. In December 2013, the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/75, recommended that the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities be referred to as "UN-Space". The Office for Outer Space Affairs acts as the UN-Space secretariat.

A wide range of themes addressed by UN-Space under its open informal sessions include: education and training in space-related areas: challenges and opportunities in the UN system (2004); space technology for disaster management: opportunities within the United Nations system (2005); space technology for sustainable development and disaster management: opportunities within the United Nations system (2006); the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development in the United Nations system (2007); public-private partnerships and innovative funding approaches in the United Nations system to promote the use of space technology and its applications (2008); space benefits for Africa: contribution of the United Nations (2009); space technology for emergency communications (2010); space and climate change (2011); space for agriculture and food security (2012); and space and disaster risk reduction: planning for resilient human settlements (2013).

Contacts:

For queries, inputs to the Secretary-General's report, and confirmation of attendance of the 34th session of the Inter-Agency Meeting, please contact: Aygul Duysenhanova (Ms.), Programme Officer, Office for Outer Space Affairs, tel: +43 1 26060 4262, e-mail: aygul.duysenhanova@ unoosa.org; cc: Niklas Hedman (Mr.), Chief of Section / OOSA, Secretary of the Inter-Agency Meeting, tel: +43 1 26060 4943, e-mail: niklas.hedman@unoosa.org.

For more information, please visit the website of the United Nations coordination of outer space activities (www.uncosa.unvienna.org) or the website of the Office for Outer Space Affairs (www.unoosa.org).

22 January 2014

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Enclosure

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES (UN-SPACE)

[As adopted in 2013, see A/AC.105/1043]

- 1. Opening of the session.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda.
- 3. Coordination of future plans and programmes of common interest for cooperation and exchange of views on current activities in the practical application of space technology and related areas.
- 4. Contribution of space-based technology for climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- 5. Use of space-based technology for disaster risk reduction and emergency response.
- 6. Use of spatial data and activities related to the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group and the United Nations Spatial Data Infrastructure.
- 7. 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.
- 8. Preparation of a special report on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation.
- 9. Means of strengthening the role of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities.
- 10. Other matters.