



**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space
Legal Subcommittee
Fifty-sixth session
Vienna, 27 March-7 April 2017**

Draft report

Annex III

Report of the Chair of the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space

1. At its 937th meeting, on 27 March 2017, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space reconvened its Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space under the chairmanship of Setsuko Aoki (Japan).
2. The Working Group held four meetings between 31 March and 6 April 2017. At the opening meeting, the Chair outlined the mandate of the Working Group under its five-year workplan ([A/AC.105/1003](#), para. 179).
3. The Working Group had before it the following:
 - (a) Note by the Secretariat on the review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, containing information received from Slovakia, Thailand, Turkey and the World Meteorological Organization ([A/AC.105/C.2/111](#));
 - (b) Note by the Secretariat on the review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, containing information received from Austria and Germany ([A/AC.105/C.2/111/Add.1](#));
 - (c) Conference room paper containing the draft report of the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space ([A/AC.105/C.2/2017/CRP.15](#));
 - (d) Conference room paper entitled “International cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space: filling the gap between developing and developed countries”, submitted by Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) ([A/AC.105/C.2/2017/CRP.22](#));
 - (e) Conference room paper on the review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, containing information received from Pakistan ([A/AC/105/C.2/2017/CRP.25](#));



(f) Conference room paper containing the updated draft report of the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space ([A/AC/105/C.2/2017/CRP.27](#));

(g) Conference room paper on the review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, containing information received from the International Institute of Space Law ([A/AC.105/C.2/2017/CRP.30](#)).

4. The Working Group emphasized that the conclusion of its work under the five-year workplan, in 2017, would coincide with the fiftieth anniversary 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. The result of the work done under the five-year workplan would therefore serve as an important contribution to that commemoration, as international mechanisms for cooperation had evolved considerably over the past 50 years. In that regard, the Working Group also recalled that its work would provide a significant source of information in the context of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50), in 2018.

5. The Working Group considered its draft report on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan, as contained in [A/AC.105/C.2/2017/CRP.15](#), which had been prepared jointly by the Chair of the Working Group and the Secretariat on the basis of contributions made by States members and permanent observers of the Committee to the work of the Working Group and of additional research. The Working Group agreed that the present document, which constituted an updated version of conference room paper [A/AC.105/C.2/2016/CRP.14](#) of the fifty-fifth session of the Subcommittee, was a sound basis on which to finalize its report at the current session of the Subcommittee.

6. The Working Group considered the contribution to its work contained in conference room paper [A/AC.105/C.2/2017/CRP.22](#), and, on the basis of an updated revised draft report of the Working Group as contained in [A/AC.105/C.2/2017/CRP.27](#), agreed to its final report, as a whole, as amended, to be entitled “Report of the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan”, to be issued in the six official languages of the United Nations as document [A/AC.105/C.2/\[...\]](#), for submission to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixtieth session, in 2017.

7. In the course of its work during the present session of the Subcommittee, the Working Group again observed several examples of international mechanisms for cooperation, ranging from bilateral and multilateral agreements and memorandums of understanding to regional and interregional cooperation and coordination mechanisms and other international cooperation mechanisms for specific space activities, and noted that the final report, when issued, would represent an important source of information for further joint undertakings by spacefaring nations and emerging space nations, as appropriate, and provide useful guidance to this complex area of various layers of cooperation mechanisms.

8. The Working Group observed that its findings as contained in the final report, and which comprised a multi-year effort, had already led to a better understanding of the different approaches taken by States and international organizations to cooperation in space activities. The final report could therefore constitute a basis for the further strengthening of international cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.

9. The Working Group expressed its gratitude to the Chair of the Working Group for her dedicated and tireless efforts in guiding the work under the its multi-year workplan and for her thorough research leading to the substantive fact-finding and analysis contained in the final report of the Working Group.