United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Committee On the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

#### **OVERVIEW**





# **UNOOSA: supporting Member States**



**CAPACITY BUILDER:** UNOOSA carries out specialized, targeted and cross-sectorial capacity-building activities in space science, technology, law and policy



**CONVENER:** UNOOSA facilitates the intergovernmental process. Brings stakeholders together (governments, IGOs, NGOs, private sector, academia, civil society)



**GATEWAY:** UNOOSA - the sole UN entity dedicated to comprehensive space affairs. Fosters access to space. Builds public-private partnerships



#### **Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

UN General Assembly committee that reviews peaceful uses of outer space, **encourages space research** programmes, and **studies legal issues** arising from exploration of space.



COPUOS meeting in Vienna, Austria

- COPUOS developed **5 treaties and 5 principles** of outer space.
- The Committee's membership continues to expand: 95 States in 2020, though the Office assists all 193 Member States of the UN.
- Two subcommittees:
  - Scientific and Technical subcommittee (STSC)
  - Legal subcommittee (LSC)

All documents are available at www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/documents.html

UNOOSA is the Secretariat of COPUOS and of its subcommittees



## Long Term Sustainability of Outer Space activities

In 2019 COPUOS adopted the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities (A/74/20, annex II). They include the following areas:

- National regulatory frameworks, <u>supervision</u> of national space activities, enhance <u>registration</u> practice;
- Safety of space operations (information exchange on <u>space objects and events</u>), improve accuracy of orbital data, sharing of space debris monitoring information, conjunction assessments (all orbital phases of controlled flight/pre-launch);
- **q** Sharing of <u>space weather</u> data and forecasts/develop space weather models;
- Design and operation of space objects (including small satellites), uncontrolled re-entry of space objects (risk assessment and <u>consultation</u>);
- **q** <u>Capacity-building</u>, scientific and technical research and development

http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/topics/long-termsustainability-of-outer-space-activities.html





#### **Dark & Quiet Skies Conference**

In its report to the General Assembly in 2017, the Committee agreed that the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the International Astronomical Union jointly organise a conference on the topic of light pollution. It is scheduled in La Palma, Spain from 6 to 9 October 2020.



- During the Scientific and Technical subcommittee in February 2020, the IAU presented its views on "The impact of megaconstellations of communications satellites on astronomy"
- The outcome of the Dark & Quiet Skies Conference shall be presented to the Scientific and Technical subcommittee in
  Vienna in February 2021: it will notably recommend measures to mitigate the impact of satellite constellations on astronomy.



## Thank you!

Nathalie Ricard Scientific Affairs Officer Space Applications Section United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs Vienna, Austria nathalie.ricard@un.org | www.unoosa.org





BRINGING THE BENEFITS OF SPACE TO HUMANKIND