



American Model United Nations

General Assembly Fourth Committee

GA Fourth/I/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of
Outer Space

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Fourth Committee

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

1 *Noting with appreciation* the efforts made by the Committee On the Peaceful Uses
2 of Outer Space (COPUOS) to promote the peaceful use of outer space,
3

4 *Recalling* the resolution on the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of
5 States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial
6 Bodies (Outer Space Treaty) and the definitions set forth,
7

8 *Taking note* of current technological advances in space, specifically those focused
9 on the de-cluttering of outer space,
10

11 *Seeking* the collaboration of the international community on the sharing of special
12 imaging data collected by satellites in space,
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14 *Thanking* the international community for providing public and private funds for
15 the peaceful development of outer space,
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17 *Emphasizing* the need for transparency in the peaceful exploration and utilization
18 of space,
19

- 20 1. *Urges* the international community to address the following questions:
21 (a) “What constitutes a weapon in outer space?” so as to allow for the effective
22 and comprehensive legislation of outer space;
23 (b) “What kind of technology in space considered peaceful?” so that the UN may
24 make the distinction between technology which can be used for both peaceful and
25 military aims;
26 (c) “When is the use of technology in space considered self defense?” so as to
27 protect countries rights to national defense;
28 (d) Reaffirms the Karman line as agreed by the scientific community as the
29 boundary of outer space where aerospace records begin;
30

31 2. *Further requests* that the international community define the territory in outer
32 space in the way which international waters are defined by the United Nations
33 Conventions on the Law of the Sea to:
34

- (a) Promote the shared, peaceful use of space;

35 (b) Accelerate the development of space in a way which encourage cooperation
36 between nations rather than competition;

37 (c) Provide equal opportunities for developing nations who lack an
38 extensive space programs;

39 (d) While reaffirming the principles outlined in the Outer Space Treaty

40
41 3. *Encourages* the efforts of countries and national space agencies like NASA
42 developing technology to assist in the de-cluttering of space, including but not limited to:

43 (a) Using the atmosphere to naturally break down space debris and;

44 (b) Disintegrating or pushing debris out of orbit;

45
46 4. *Calls upon* the international community to continue developing programs such
47 as ground-based space lasers in order to clean excessive debris from space so that
48 countries may maintain their rights of use to space and to safely and peacefully develop
49 space:

50 (a) With the precondition that distribution of these lasers be carefully monitored
51 by cooperation between COPUOS and the companies and governments developing them
52 so that COPUOS maintains a record of those in possession of these lasers, as these
53 programs do have the potential to become militarized, and

54 (b) Acknowledging the crucial nature of these lasers, as with the creation of space
55 debris, exponentially more debris is created that can impact other nations' space programs
56 and safety in space;

57
58 5. *Commends* the efforts of The Regional Centres for Space Science and
59 Technology Education and the United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)
60 which allow developing and developed nations to access and share information including
61 but not limited to:

62 (a) Past space launches;

63 (b) Discoveries in outer space regarding the existence of resources useful to
64 nations and ways in which these resources might be accessed and utilized;

65 (c) Unarmed satellite and spacecraft technology;

66 (d) Technology utilized by space operations which can also benefit the
67 international community;

68 (e) While encouraging the implementation of patent laws within nations in order
69 to facilitate further innovation, competition, and protection of intellectual property;

70
71 6. *Reaffirms* nations' sovereign right to choose to provide the information to the
72 international community they wish and to keep to themselves that which they do not want
73 to share, but encouraging these nations to contribute to the international discourse on
74 outer space;

75
76 7. *Asserts* the importance that the international community, through these
77 resources, develop a framework for partnerships between nations to further research
78 efforts, maintain the peaceful development of space and discuss with one another the
79 ways which research of outer space can assist mankind;

80
81 8. *Recognizes* that countries contributing to these resources be guaranteed access

- 82 to information in the space database to be used for
83 (a) Peaceful uses of space as defined by the international community under the
84 Outer Space Treaties;
85 (b) The development of space programs in countries which lack them;
86 (c) Cooperation between nations already in possession of significant space
87 programs seeking to broaden their knowledge of outer space;
88
89 9. *Supports* the continued transparency of development in outer space through
90 communication facilitated by these resources with specific emphasis placed on
91 (a) Information regarding prospective space launches;
92 (b) Current satellites in space;
93 (c) Methods for preventing the creation of space debris and dealing with debris
94 which already exists;
95
96 10. *Requests* that the international community reaffirm its dedication to the
97 peaceful use of space technology as outlined by the Treaty on Principles Governing the
98 Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and
99 Other Celestial Bodies;
100
101 11. *Encourages* the establishment of international satellites providing public
102 information regarding agricultural uses and weather patterns;
103
104 12. *Reaffirms* the importance that all objects in outer space be registered with the
105 UNOOSA by the country where the launch occurred;
106
107 13. Strongly discourages the militarization of outer space, including but not
108 limited to:
109 (a) The storage of weapons in outer space;
110 (b) The deploying of weapons from outer space;
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112 14. *Requests* that private space companies be held responsible by their country(s)
113 of residence and of launch for issues that arise from their space activity;
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115 15. *Calls upon* a sovereign state or a conglomerate of states with adequate
116 economic capital to incentivize private companies to explore space by means of:
117 (a) Tax incentives;
118 (b) Information sharing and;
119 (c) Support of existing national programs within the state(s).

Passed, Yes: 53 / No: 51 / Abstain: 9