COPUOS Scientific and Technical Subcommittee Activities

Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities

Report to IAA Space Debris Committee Oct. 2015

T. Schildknecht

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Guidelines prepared by 4 expert groups 2012(11) - 2014:

Expert group A

" Sustainable space utilization supporting sustainable development on Earth "

Expert group B

" Space debris, space operations and tools to support collaborative space situational awareness " (3 formal, 3 informal meetings, each 2–5 days)

- 8 Guidelines
- 3 topics for further consideration by STSC
- Expert group C " Space Weather "
- Expert group D

" Regulatory regimes and guidance for actors in the space arena "

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LTSSA Working Group 2014 – 2016:

- First proposal by WG Chair (end of 2013) Compilation of draft guidelines proposed by the expert groups Guidelines: A: 7, B: 8, C: 5, D: 11)
- Formal / informal meetings Feb 2014, June 2014, Feb 2015, June 2015, Oct 2015
 - New guidelines submitted by delegations
 - Regrouping and merging of guidelines
 - Currently (Oct 2015) 29 guidelines, 4 groups:
 - I Regulatory framework for space activities
 - II Space operations
 - III Scientific and technical research and development
 - IV Implementation and updating
- Work Plan
 Finalization planned for 2016
 to be presented to the General Assembly

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Example subjects of Guidelines (not consolidated, author's selection!):

- Adopt regulatory frameworks
- Enhance the practice of registering space objects
- Exchange information on space objects
- Improve accuracy of orbital data
- Enhance the practice and utility of sharing orbital information
- Promote the collection, sharing and dissemination of space debris monitoring information
- Perform conjunction assessment
- Security and resilience of terrestrial infrastructure (incl. foreign)
- Investigate and consider new measures to manage the space debris population in the long term
- etc ...