Committee: United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs

Topic: Combating the Threat of Space Junk and Orbital Debris Collisions

Main Submitter: Republic of Chad

Sponsors: Japan, United States of America, United Arab Emirates, Argentina, Canada

Signatories: Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Korea, People's Republic of China, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Lebanese Republic, United Kingdom, Russian Federation, Armenia, Belgium, Cuba, Netherlands, Kingdom of Sweden, Commonwealth of Australia, Malaysia, The Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Luxembourg

Acronyms: IMF (International Monetary Fund), NGOs (Non-Governmental Organizations), UN (United Nations)

*Recognizing* the importance of removing cosmic junk and orbital debris,

*Keeping in mind* the effect this issue has on space exploration and the development of space missions,

*Bearing in mind* that the delegates are in essence to focus on diplomatic resolutions rather than a scientific resolutions,

 *Taking into consideration* the previously signed **International Outer Space Treaty** of 1967, which remains the main legal framework for international activity in space despite being signed more than 50 years ago,

*Recognizing* the common interest of all nations in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

1. *Affirms* the need to reassess the clauses of The **International Outer Space Treaty** of 1967, bearing in mind the current situation regarding the known issues’ circumstances of outer space:
	1. With critical focus on Article VIII of the treaty which prevents any third party or government organization from removing space junk without consent of the nation from which the object originally came;
2. *Establishes* the committee for cooperation on innovative solutions for space debris removal:
	1. To have the mandate of assessing the effectiveness of current practices of space debris removal and producing a bi-annual report on the best practices in the field;
	2. To be headquartered in Tokyo, Japan and N'Djamena, Chad;
	3. To consist of the national space agencies of any ratifiers and experts on the field;
	4. To receive funding from the fifth committee of the United Nations General Assembly and all willing nations;
	5. Requesting funds from organizations such as but not limited to the IMF and NGOs who wish to see this issue resolved, noting the importance of the issue at hand and the urgency to resolve it;
3. *Establishes* the United Nations fund for proposals for the mitigation and research of space debris with the mandate of providing a mechanism for states and private space agencies to pledge funds towards space debris removal research:
	1. Encourages the committee to employ the aid of national financial analysts in order to maintain the cost-efficiency of the proposal that is to be funded*;*
4. *Authorizes* the developments and use of lasers, ion beams and similar weapons to attempt the relief of space junk and orbital debris:
5. Ensuring these weapons are used correctly, by control their use through the implementation of a UN body to regulate such a method;
6. Supporting the use of weapons for mitigation and its moderation by a specific committee similar to that of the existing United Nations peacekeeping force;
7. Urges the United Nations Security Council to introduce preventive measures in case any member states attempt to exploit the use of weapons in space;
8. *Encourages* the drafting of a framework on Coordinating International Activities of space debris removal;
9. *Encourages* member states to consider measures to increase accountability of private space firms to space debris removal operations such as tax incentives and laws holding firms accountable;
10. *Recommends* the inclusion of donations towards space debris removal in corporate social responsibility tax incentive laws.

Forum: UN Office for Outer Space Affairs

Question of: Combating the Threat of Space Junk and Orbital Debris Collisions

Main Submitter: Iran

Sponsors: Hungary, Sweden, France, Chile, Poland

Signatories: Cuba, Canada, Malaysia, Belgium, New Zealand, Burkina Faso, South Africa, India, Germany, Malaysia, Mexico, China, Italy, Luxembourg, Australia, Switzerland, Netherlands, Egypt, Armenia, Brazil, Argentina, Lebanon, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, South Korea, Chile

*Reminding* all states of the Outer Space Treaty of October 10 1967 which states that all participants shall bear responsibility of their space activities,

*Taking into consideration* the Space Liability Convention of 1972 which states that the space-faring nations shall be responsible for all damage caused by their space-craft towards other space-crafts,

*Draws the attention* to the lack of cooperation between institutions and member states in the field of space debris mitigation,

*Alarmed* by the increasing amount of space debris that can pose a threat to the future of human space travel,

*Deeply concerned* by the fact that there are over 750,000 pieces of harmful space debris that is currently untracked and uncatalogued,

1. Calls upon the establishment of a new International Space Management Organization (ISMO) as a United Nations Specialized Agency ratified by space-faring nations and countries with aerospace industries that will:
	1. Unify national research and mitigation efforts under one project,
	2. Manage the Debris Mitigation Fund and the Global Space Surveillance Network,
	3. Create an information sharing network for the accountability by spacefaring nations,
	4. Issue recommendations to member states on best practices regarding space debris and other space related issues,
	5. Coordinate and lead global efforts in space debris mitigation,
	6. Investigate incidents that cause debris;
2. Recommends the creation of a Global Space Surveillance Network (GSSN) consisting of optical telescopes and millimeter resolution radars in member states to track currently uncatalogued debris:
3. Further recommends the establishment of the Debris Mitigation Fund to help provide funding to institutions conducting research of space debris. The fund will be:
	1. Funded on a voluntary basis where participating countries can contribute an amount based on the number of space launches,
	2. Used to improve research into space debris mitigation technology by universities, national space agencies, and private entities;
4. Encourages member states to participate in the existing Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) and support its activities by:
	1. Participating in IADC working groups on debris measurements and research into debris mitigation and impact protection,
	2. Funding work done by the committee,
	3. Implementing the recommendations established by the committee in their own space programs;
5. Endorses members states to implement legislation limiting the generation of space debris by private launch companies and satellite operators such as implementing:
	1. The “25 year rule” where all satellites have to be boosted to a graveyard orbit or deorbited after 25 years,
	2. Improved engineering standards to prevent accidental release of debris,
	3. Penalties to private entities for generating debris.