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Assuring a Safe, Secure and Sustainable Space Environment for Space Activities (4)

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STATUS UPDATE ON THE UN COPUOS WORKING GROUP ON THE LONG-TERM
SUSTAINABILITY OF OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES

Abstract

In 2010, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN COPUOS) established a Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. The Working Group is mandated to produce a set of voluntary, non-binding guidelines to promote space sustainability. This paper will present the progress of the discussions in the Working Group during 2016 and will give an indication of the substantive elements of the emerging UN COPUOS guidelines for space sustainability. Linkages of the work in UN COPUOS with the report of the UN Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities (the GGE) will also be discussed.