# The Expert Group on Space and Global Health

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Perspectives and outcomes from the High level forum – Dubai, November 2016

COPUOS, S&T sub-committee, 54th session, February 2017

# Global health and the Sustainable Development Goals



SDGs: the relevance of space technology

Global Health includes direct considerations relative to most SDGS, not only SDG no 3

*Many factors combine together to affect the health of individuals and communities. Whether people are healthy or not, is determined by their circumstances and environment. To a large extent, factors such as where we live, the state of our environment, genetics, our income and education level, and our relationships with friends and family all have considerable impacts on health...* **(WHO – determinants of health)**

# The Expert Group on Space and Global Health

**First Meeting of the expert group on space and global health**
**held on 5 February 2015:**

**Report on the proposed mandate, workplan and initial**
**considerations**

The activities of the group are planned over the next three years. The group work plan includes:

1. Review of the current and evolving state of affairs relative to the use of space in support of global health needs and a specific scope for the expert group (2015);

2. Compile practices and initiatives, current or planned (concepts, science, capacity building, operations) according to the proposed scope (mainly 2015-16);

3. Analyse gaps and opportunities for future development and to enhance alignment toward global health goals according to current context (mainly 2016-17);

4. Explore possible cooperative and user-driven solutions to address these gaps (mainly 2017-18);

5. Continue efforts to promote active engagement of the United Nations Committee for the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other relevant national and international organizations towards tangible actions in this domain (ongoing).

# Space for Global Health – UN Inter-Agency report

United Nations

**General Assembly**

A/AC.105/1091

Distr.: General
30 April 2015

Original: English

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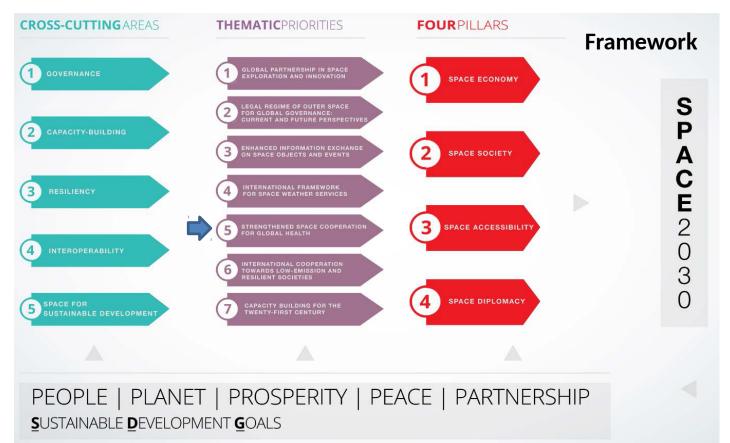Uses of Outer Space**

### Space for global health

**Special report of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space
Activities on the use of space science and technology within the
United Nations system for global health**
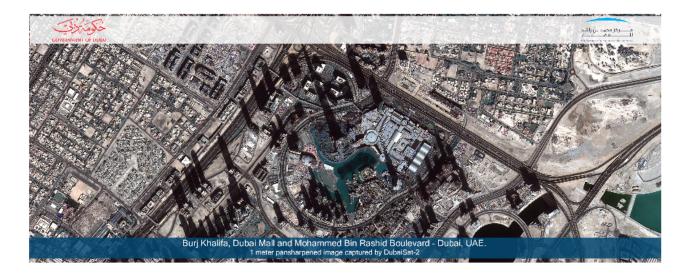
## I. Introduction

1.   The General Assembly, in its resolution 69/85, on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, urged the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), under the leadership of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat, to continue to examine how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to implementing the Millennium Declaration and to the post-2015 development agenda process, and encouraged entities of the United Nations system to participate, as appropriate, in UN-Space coordination efforts to that effect.

# Towards the UNISPACE+50



**Framework**

**Approach:** A series of High-level Fora "Space as a driver for socioeconomic sustainable development" to:

- Provide recommendations on the potential of space innovations to address sustainable development challenges
- Address the cross-sectoral impacts in pursuit of global sustainable development
- Invite the collective space community to address the future of global space governance

Burj Khalifa, Dubai Mall and Mohammed Bin Rashid Boulevard - Dubai, UAE.
1 meter pansharpened image captured by DubaiSat-2

## United Nations/United Arab Emirates - High Level Forum: Space as a Driver for Socio-Economic Sustainable Development

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, 20 - 24 NOVEMBER 2016

Organized jointly by

the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the United Arab Emirates Space Agency

Hosted by

Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre

Co-sponsored by

Secure World Foundation, Sierra Nevada Corporation's Space Systems and the

International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems

http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/hlf/first-hlf-meeting.html

# Dubai Declaration

*Adopted at the first High Level Forum: Space as a driver for socio-economic sustainable development, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 24 November 2016*

1. *Declare the following four High Level Forum pillars as constituting **an inclusive global Space2030 agenda** for exploration, innovation and inspiration that calls **for strengthened cooperation and governance** of outer space activities: Space economy - the development of space-derived economic benefits; Space society - the evolution of society and societal benefits stemming from space-related activities; Space accessibility - all communities using and benefiting from space technology and applications; Space diplomacy - building partnerships and strengthening international cooperation in space activities.*

...

7. *Emphasize that, in order to strengthen socio-economic development, **an integrated approach is required among the space sector and other sectors**, including environment and climate change, health, water, information and communication technology, and management of resources, to better understand and meet the needs of end-users and society at large;*

# Considerations for the Expert Group, Vienna 2017

1. Acknowledging the Expert Group (EG) on Space and Global Health as a key mechanism to prepare for UNISPACE+50 on the thematic priority no 5

2. Considering the scoping review on the applications of space technologies to global health as per the current EG workplan and discuss next steps

3. Adapting the EG workplan to support activities towards UNISPACE+50

4. Supporting the development of a possible thematic workshop under the leadership of Switzerland and with the support of UN-OOSA and the WHO. Consider to address current gaps and opportunities for Space and Global Health as one component of the workshop

5. Exploring international cooperation on Space and Global Health post-2018, with perspectives relating to global governance, capacity building and engagement of global health partners