



General Assembly

Distr.: General
25 November 2024
English
Original: French

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Sixty-second session
Vienna, 3–14 February 2025
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Space debris

Research on space debris, the safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating to their collision with space debris

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
II. Replies received from Member States	2
Algeria.....	2

* A/AC.105/C.1/L.418.



II. Replies received from Member States

Algeria

[Original: French]

[30 October 2024]

The concerns that space debris raises are of particular importance to Algeria because of the size of its territory, the density of its population and the growing number of space objects in orbit over its territory.

In that regard, Algeria welcomes the work of the Office for Outer Space Affairs to promote international collaboration and foster progress in this area, and reiterates its support for the efforts of the international community to mitigate space debris and protect the orbital and suborbital environments.

In 2024, the Algerian Space Agency (ASAL) initiated discussions with the Shanghai Astronomical Observatory with a view to collaboration on scientific research related to asteroid and space debris observation.

This partnership with the Observatory, which specializes in astronomy and astrophysics and is involved in space debris research, will enable ASAL to strengthen its collision warning system for the safety of Algerian satellites.

With regard to the safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board, Algeria, which participates actively in the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its two subsidiary bodies and endorses the principles related thereto, is concerned about the possible consequences of the use of such power sources in outer space, which would undermine any form of long-term sustainability of outer space activities and the preservation of outer space as the common heritage of humankind for future generations.

In that regard, it recalls the provisions of article IV of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, which stipulates that “States Parties to the Treaty undertake not to place in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, install such weapons on celestial bodies, or station such weapons in outer space in any other manner.”

Algeria considers it essential that States pay greater attention to the potential consequences of the use of nuclear power sources, and supports all initiatives involving the transfer of expertise in that area in order to enable all States that wish to make use of power sources in space to do so safely.
