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

**International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer
space: activities of Member States**

Note by the Secretariat

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II. Replies received from Member States

Belarus

[Original: Russian]

[3 November 2023]

Under the legislation of the Republic of Belarus, the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus is responsible for the implementation of a unified State policy on, and for the coordination and State regulation of activities relating to, the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

The Space Research Agency was established at the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus in 2015 in order to fulfil the Academy's mandated tasks relating to outer space.

The space policy of the Republic of Belarus is based on the provisions of the 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, and is aimed at the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations Member States on 25 September 2015.

Space-related activities in Belarus are carried out as part of the State programme for the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, covering the period 2021–2025, which was approved by the Government and for the coordination of which the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus is responsible.

On the basis of current scientific and industrial capacity and State priorities aimed at the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations Member States, the Republic of Belarus has identified the following areas for the development of activities relating to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space under the space programme for 2021–2025:

- Implementation of the national space programme for 2021–2025
- Development of the Belarusian Space System for Earth Remote Sensing through the establishment of a Russian-Belarusian space system on the basis of a Russian-Belarusian satellite capable of capturing highly detailed images – with a spatial resolution of 0.35 metres – and ground-based Belarusian facilities for control and for receiving, processing and distributing the space information generated
- Improvement of a multilevel Earth remote sensing system comprising space, aviation (unpiloted component) and ground segments
- Development and launch of a cube satellite with a specialized payload as part of a Union State programme, and creation of a joint Russian-Belarusian constellation of small satellites
- Use of the information obtained through space activities to support various areas of the country's socioeconomic development, including precision farming, digitalization of the national economy and Antarctic research
- Development of the national system of satellite communications and broadcasting on the basis of the Belarusian geostationary communications satellite with a view to increasing the volume and quality of communication and broadcasting services provided to domestic and foreign users
- Development of navigation, geodetic and cartographical activities using space technologies
- Development of the aerospace education system using educational nanosatellites
- Development of new materials used in the construction of spacecraft for near-Earth and deep-space exploration

More than 20 scientific and industrial organizations are active in the Belarusian space sector, which employs approximately 4,000 qualified experts.

The national operator of the Belarusian Space System for Earth Remote Sensing, which comprises the Belarusian satellite BKA, the Belarusian ground control station and the Belarusian ground station for receiving, processing and distributing the information generated, is Geoinformation Systems, a science and engineering State unitary enterprise.

Launched into orbit on 22 July 2012, the BKA satellite, which provides 2 m resolution, and the Belarusian Space System for Earth Remote Sensing, which operates on the basis of that satellite, continue to perform the tasks for which they were designed. The launch of BKA has enabled Belarus to establish its informational sovereignty in the area of Earth remote sensing data.

In 2023, Earth remote sensing data from the Belarusian Space System for Earth Remote Sensing were transmitted under 25 agreements concluded with user entities attached to nine State bodies. The main users are the Ministry for Emergency Situations, the State Committee on Property, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Forestry.

Information from the BKA satellite is used for monitoring natural and human-caused emergencies, studying the state of and forecasting changes in natural landscapes and maintaining the State land registry, for agricultural applications and for road construction, reconstruction and planning. Satellite imagery forms the basis for the production of topographic maps and navigational charts and is widely used in geological exploration and aerospace education.

Optoelectronic equipment, microelectronic components, software, materials and component devices produced for space systems have reached a new technical and technological level in terms of their design.

The distributed system for receiving, processing and disseminating timely space information from satellites, created as part of the national space programme for the period 2016–2020 and forming part of the Belarusian Space System for Earth Remote Sensing, makes it possible to receive, process, store and disseminate Earth remote sensing data from nine meteorological satellites (MetOp B, MetOp C, NOAA 18, NOAA 19, NOAA 20, Terra, Aqua, Suomi NPP and Fengyun-3D). These data are transmitted up to 26 times a day to the Ministry for Emergency Situations, the National Centre for Hydrometeorology, Radioactive Pollution Control and Environmental Monitoring and other relevant users. Data from meteorological satellites are provided to users within 10 minutes of the end of each downlink session.

In 2023, remote sensing data transmitted from meteorological satellites to the National Centre for Emergency Management and Response enabled the detection of 120 fires in ecosystems.

The Belarusian communications satellite Belintersat-1 has been successfully operating in geostationary orbit since 2016. Its service areas are Europe, Africa and Asia. The telecommunications satellite has made it possible to put into operation the National Satellite Communications and Broadcasting System, which provides a wide range of services, including data transmission, voice communication, Internet access and satellite broadcasting of television programmes.

The Belarusian State University is the leading educational institution in the aerospace education system in Belarus. Following the launch of the first Belarusian educational nanosatellite, BSU Sat-1, in 2018, a second educational nanosatellite, BSU Sat-2, was launched into orbit in 2023. Both satellites offer a wide range of educational applications and are used as an educational and scientific laboratory. Together with ground-based facilities for control and for receiving and processing data, they enable students to master space technologies and conduct scientific research in real conditions.

Areas for the further development of aerospace education are as follows:

- Creation of a centre for the technological testing of very small satellites
 - Modernization and automation of ground-based facilities for control and for receiving and processing information
 - Adaptation of educational courses for aerospace industry specialists to practical applications, with a focus on service platform systems and satellite payloads, with a view to attracting a large number of high-school graduates, including foreign students
 - Organization of international courses and seminars for the advanced training and retraining of aerospace industry specialists at the Aerospace Education Centre.
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