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Information furnished in conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space

Letter dated 1 August 2022 from the Legal Services Department of the European Space Agency addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex), the rights and obligations of which the European Space Agency (ESA) has declared its acceptance of, the Agency has the honour to transmit the attached notification regarding its Attitude Vernier Upper Module (AVUM) space object, launched into Earth orbit and duly registered in the Agency's space object registry upon launch (see annex). ¹

Following the first VEGA-C qualification flight, which occurred on 13 July 2022, the AVUM upper stage has been successfully passivated and injected into a graveyard orbit.

(Signed)
Gisela Süss
ESA Legal Counsel and
Head of the Legal Services Department

¹ The data on the space object referenced in the annex were entered into the Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space on 3 August 2022.





Annex

Registration data on a space object launched by the European Space Agency*

Attitude Vernier Upper Module (AVUM)

Information provided in conformity with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space

Name of space object Attitude Vernier Upper Module (AVUM)

State of registry European Space Agency (ESA)

Other launching States France

Date and territory or location of launch 13 July 2022 at 1313 hours, 17 seconds UTC;

Europe's Spaceport, Kourou, French Guiana

Basic orbital parameters

Nodal period 224 minutes
Inclination 70.131 degrees

Apogee 5,844.535 kilometres
Perigee 5,836.466 kilometres

General function of space object The AVUM stage is the last stage of the VEGA-C

launcher and is the orbital stage carrying and deploying the satellite. This upper stage was launched as part of the inaugural flight of VEGA-C. The final position of AVUM is its disposal orbit; no re-entry is foreseen.

Additional voluntary information for use in the Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space

Change of status in operations

Date when space object was no

longer functional

13 July 2022 at 1528 hours, 43 seconds UTC

Date when space object was no

longer operational

13 July 2022 at 1528 hours, 43 seconds UTC

Physical conditions when space

object is moved to a disposal

orbit

The AVUM stage was passivated during the last

phase of the flight, as unsymmetrical

dimethylhydrazine (UDMH), dinitrogen tetroxide (nitrogen tetroxide (NTO)) and hydrazine had been

released. The on-board batteries have been

discharged

Space object owner or operator ESA

Launch vehicle VEGA-C (first flight) (VC01)

Other information The mass of the two on-board tanks is 20.59 kg

each. The theoretical residual lifetime in its

graveyard orbit exceeds 100 years

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^{*} The information was submitted using the form prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 62/101 and has been reformatted by the Secretariat.