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**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space****Information furnished in conformity with the Convention
on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space****Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the Head of 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 information regarding three space objects launched into Earth orbit or beyond (see annex).¹

The space objects were duly registered in the ESA space object registry after their launch into Earth orbit or beyond, in accordance with the Convention and pursuant to the relevant bilateral arrangements for those objects launched under an international cooperation or ESA programme framework.

(Signed)

Marco Ferrazzani
ESA Legal Counsel and
Head of the Legal Services Department

¹ The data on the space objects referenced in the annex were entered into the Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space on 23 December 2020.



Annex

Registration data on space objects launched by the European Space Agency*

Cheops

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

Committee on Space Research international designator	2019-092B
Name of space object	Cheops
State of registry	European Space Agency (ESA)
Date and territory or location of launch	18 December 2019 at 0854 hours, 20 seconds UTC; Guiana Space Centre, Kourou, French Guiana
Basic orbital parameters	
Nodal period	98.9 minutes
Inclination	98.2 degrees
Apogee	712 kilometres
Perigee	695 kilometres
General function of space object	Cheops (characterizing exoplanet satellite) was launched from Kourou on a Soyuz Fregat rocket on 18 December 2019 at 0854 hours UTC. It is an ESA science mission designed to search for exoplanetary transits, by means of ultra-high precision photometry, past bright stars. The primary instrument on Cheops is a photometer with a single, frame-transfer, back-illuminated charge-coupled device detector at the focal plane of an on-axis Ritchey-Chrétien telescope with a diameter of 32 cm. Cheops operates in a Sun-synchronous low Earth orbit and has a planned mission lifetime of 3.5 years

OPS-SAT

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

Committee on Space Research international designator	2019-092F
Name of space object	OPS-SAT
State of registry	ESA

* The information was submitted using the form prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution [62/101](#) and has been reformatted by the Secretariat.

Date and territory or location of launch	18 December 2019 at 0854 hours, 20 seconds UTC; Guiana Space Centre, Kourou, French Guiana
Basic orbital parameters	
Nodal period	95.0 minutes
Inclination	97.5 degrees
Apogee	513 kilometres
Perigee	509 kilometres
General function of space object	OPS-SAT, a 3U CubeSat, was launched from the Guiana Space Centre on 18 December 2019 at 0854 hours UTC on a Soyuz Fregat rocket. OPS-SAT is designed as a flying laboratory to experiment with new techniques in mission control and on-board satellite systems and validate them under real flight conditions. The spacecraft offers a reconfigurable environment and is equipped, in particular, with a processing platform, an integrated fine attitude determination and control subsystem, a Global Positioning System receiver, an S-band transponder, an X-band transmitter, a high-resolution camera, an optical uplink and a software-defined radio

Solar Orbiter

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

Committee on Space Research international designator	2020-010A
Name of space object	Solar Orbiter
State of registry	ESA
Date and territory or location of launch	10 February 2020 at 0403 hours UTC; Cape Canaveral, Florida, United States of America
Basic orbital parameters	Not applicable. Interplanetary trajectory to heliocentric orbit
General function of space object	Solar Orbiter was launched from Cape Canaveral on 10 February 2020 at 0403 hours UTC on an Atlas V 411 rocket. It is an ESA-led mission designed to explore the Sun and the heliosphere in order to investigate many of the fundamental problems remaining in solar and heliospheric science. Solar Orbiter is equipped with 10 instruments, including 4 in situ instruments for measuring properties of the

environment in the vicinity of the spacecraft (solar wind plasma, electromagnetic fields and waves, and energetic particles, as close as 0.28 astronomical units), and remote-sensing instruments (for high-resolution imaging and spectroscopic observations of the Sun, including full-disk and coronal imaging). It has a nominal mission time of four years.
