



Brussels, 17 May 2019
(OR. en)

9246/19

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NOTE

From: Presidency
To: Council

Subject: **European Space Policy - Preparation of the Space Council**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 28 May 2019, the 9th Space Council meeting will be held during the morning, after and in the margins of the Competitiveness Council. This joint and concomitant meeting of the Council of the European Union and of the Council of ESA at Ministerial level is based on Article 8 of the Framework Agreement between the European Community (EC) and the European Space Agency (ESA). This agreement offers a common basis for the coherent and progressive development of an overall European Space Policy.
2. The draft agenda of the Space Council is set out in the [Annex](#).

II. CONTEXT

3. Following the Joint Position Paper on “Europe in Space: Roadmap towards a coordinated space policy for Europe” to strengthen the cooperation between the EU and ESA, of October 2018 agreed between the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the Spanish Presidency of the Council of ESA at Ministerial level, the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union decided to hold the ninth meeting of the Space Council after a pause of eight years.
4. An *ad hoc* procedure was followed, based on the Framework Agreement, that is "without prejudice to the Parties' internal decision-making procedures"¹, so that the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the Spanish Presidency of the Council of ESA at Ministerial level, the ESA Executive and the Commission would hold quadrilateral meetings to prepare a text on "Space as an enabler" to be adopted by each organisation according to their own procedure.
5. For the Council of the European Union, the text to be adopted is Council Conclusions, whereas for the ESA it is an ESA Resolution. Due to time constraints, it was not possible to follow previous arrangements and have a common text and therefore the body of the text is identical and the preambles differ slightly.
6. The Council Conclusions on "Space as an enabler" (doc. 9248/19) are to be adopted by the Competitiveness Council on 28 May 2019.
7. The ESA will adopt its Resolution at Ministerial level in its Council that will take place in the margins of the Competitiveness Council, immediately after the Competitiveness Council, and before the Space Council.

¹ Article 8, paragraph 4.

III. STRUCTURE OF THE "SPACE COUNCIL"

8. After the adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1), the "Space Council" will focus on a policy debate on "Space as an enabler" (agenda item 2).
9. The Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the Spanish Presidency of the Council of ESA at Ministerial level propose questions to structure the debate as set out in the ADD 1 to this Note. Ministers will be invited to limit their intervention to no more than 3 minutes.
10. The Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the Spanish Presidency of the Council of ESA at Ministerial level will draw "Presidencies Conclusions" after the policy debate (agenda item 3).

IV. CONCLUSION

11. The Permanent Representatives Committee thus invites the Competitiveness Council meeting on 28 May 2019 to take note of the Preparation of the Space Council and agree on the draft agenda for the Space Council (Annex I) to be held in the margins of the Competitiveness Council in the morning of 28 May 2019.

NINTH SPACE COUNCIL

NOTICE OF THE MEETING AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

28 May 2019 (11:15) ⁽²⁾

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Exchange of views on “space as an enabler”

Reference Document (doc. 9246/19 ADD 1)

- Orientation of the debate and questions for the EU-ESA Space Council

3. Conclusions of the EU Council and ESA Council Presidencies
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⁽²⁾ In the margins of the Competitiveness Council