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Subject: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013, (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision 541/2014/EU
- Outcome of proceedings: final compromise text

Delegations will find in the [Annex](#) the compromise text on the above mentioned Proposal for a Regulation adopted by the Permanent Representatives Committee on 18 December 2020, following the third trilogue on 15 December 2020.

Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the space programme of the Union and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013, (EU) No 377/2014 and 541/2014/EU

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 189(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

(1) Space technology, data and services have become indispensable in the daily lives of Europeans and play an essential role in preserving many strategic interests. The Union's space industry is already one of the most competitive in the world. However, the emergence of new players and the development of new technologies are revolutionising traditional industrial models. It is therefore crucial that the Union remains a leading international player with extensive freedom of action in the space domain, that it encourages scientific and technical progress and support the competitiveness and innovation capacity of space sector industries within the Union, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, start-ups and innovative businesses.

(2) The possibilities that space offers for the security of the Union and its Member States should be exploited as referred to in particular in the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy of June 2016, while retaining the civil nature of the programme and respecting the possible neutrality or non-alignment provisions stipulated in the constitutional law of Member States. The space sector's development has historically been linked to security. In many cases, the equipment, components and instruments used in the space sector as well as space data and services are dual-use. However, the Union's security and defence policy is determined within the framework of the Common Foreign and Security Policy, in accordance with Title V TEU.

(3) The Union has been developing its own space initiatives and programmes since the end of the 1990s, namely the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) and then Galileo and Copernicus, which respond to the needs of Union citizens and the requirements of public policies. The continuity of those initiatives should be ensured and the services they provide should be improved, so that they meet the new needs of users, remain at the forefront in view of new technology development and the transformations in the digital and information and communications technology domains and are able to meet political priorities such as climate change, including monitoring changes in the polar region, transport, security and defence.

(3a) Synergies between the transport, space and digital sector needs to be exploited in order to foster the broader use of new technologies (such as e-call, digital tachograph, traffic supervisions and management, autonomous driving, unmanned vehicles and drones) and tackle the needs of secure and seamless connectivity, robust positioning, inter modality and interoperability, thus enhancing the competitiveness of transport services and industry.

(3b) To fully reap the benefits of the Programme, in all Member States and by all their citizens, it is also essential to promote the use and the uptake of the data, information and services provided, as well as the support the development of downstream applications based on those data, information and services. To that end, the Member States, the Commission and the responsible entities could notably periodically run the information campaigns regarding the benefits of the Programme.

(4) To achieve the objectives of freedom of action, independence and security, a prerequisite is for the Union to benefit from an autonomous access to Space and be able to use it safely. It is therefore essential that the Union supports autonomous, reliable and cost-effective access to space, especially as regards critical infrastructure and technology, public security and the security of the Union and its Member States. The Commission should therefore have the possibility to aggregate launch services at European level, both for its own needs and, at their request, for those of other entities, including Member States, in conformity with the provisions of Article 189(2) of the Treaty. To remain competitive in a fast evolving market, it is also crucial that the Union continues to have access to modern, efficient and flexible launch infrastructure facilities and to benefit from appropriate launch systems. Therefore, without prejudice to measures taken by Member States and the European Space Agency, the Programme might support adaptations to the space ground infrastructure, including new developments, which are necessary for the implementation of the Programme and adaptations, including technology development, to space launch systems which are necessary for launching satellites, including alternative technologies and innovative systems, for the implementation of the Programme's components. Those activities should be implemented in accordance with the Financial Regulation, and with the view of achieving a better cost efficiency for the Programme. In view that there is no dedicated budget, the actions in support of access to space would be without prejudice to the implementation of the Programme components.

(5) To strengthen the competitiveness of the Union space industry and gain capacities in designing, building and operating its own systems, the Union should support the creation, growth, and development of the entire space industry. The emergence of a business- and innovation-friendly model should be supported at European, regional and national levels by initiatives such as space hubs that bring together the space, digital and other sectors, as well as users. Those space hubs should aim to foster entrepreneurship and skills while pursuing synergies with the digital innovation hubs. The Union should foster the creation and expansion of Union-based space companies to help them succeed, including by supporting them in accessing risk finance in view of the lack, within the Union, of appropriate access to private equity for space start-ups and by fostering demand (first contract approach).

(5xx) The space value chain is generally segmented as: i) upstream, comprising activities leading to an operational space system, including development, manufacturing and launch activities and the operations of such system; and ii) downstream, covering the provision of space-related services, and products to the users. Digital platforms are also an important element supporting the development of the space sector, allowing access to data and products as well as toolboxes, storage and computing facilities.

(5x) In the area of space, the Union exercises its competences in accordance with article 4(3) TFEU. The Commission should ensure the coherence of activities performed in the context of the programme.

(5a) Whereas a number of Member States have a tradition of active space related industries, the need to develop and mature space industries in Member States with emerging capabilities and the need to respond to the challenges to the traditional space industries posed by “New Space” should be recognised. Actions to develop space industry capacity across the Union and facilitate collaboration across space industry active in all Member States should be promoted.

(5b) Actions under the Programme should build on and benefit from existing national and European capacities (i.e. capacities which exist at the time the action is being carried out).

(6) Owing to its coverage and its potential to help resolve global challenges, space activities have a strong international dimension. In close coordination with the Member States, and with their agreement, the relevant bodies of the EU Space Programme might participate in matters pertaining to the Space Programme, in international cooperation and to collaborate in relevant sectoral UN bodies. For matters relating to the Space Programme of the Union ("Programme"), the Commission might coordinate, on behalf of the Union and in its field of competence, activities on the international scene, in particular to defend the interests of the Union and its Member States in international fora, including in the area of frequencies as regards the Programme, without prejudice to Member States competence in this area. It is particularly important that the Union, represented by the Commission, collaborates in the bodies of the International Cospas-Sarsat Programme.

(6a) International cooperation is paramount to promote the role of the Union as a global actor in the space sector and the Union's technology and industry, fostering a fair competition at international level, bearing in mind the need to ensure the reciprocity of the rights and obligations of the parties, and to encourage cooperation in the field of training. International cooperation is a key element of the Space Strategy for Europe. The Commission will use the EU space programme to contribute to and benefit from international efforts through initiatives, to promote European technology and industry internationally (for example bi-lateral dialogues, industry workshops, support for SME internationalisation), and to facilitate access to international markets and foster fair competition, also leveraging economic diplomacy initiatives. European space diplomacy initiatives should be in full coherence and complementarity with the existing EU policies, priorities and instruments, while, the Union has a key role to play together with the Union Member States to remain at the forefront of the international scene.

(7) Without prejudice to the competence of Member States, the Commission should promote, alongside the High Representative and in close coordination with Member States, responsible behaviour in space when implementing the programme, including to reduce space debris proliferation and explore the possibility for accession of the European Union to the relevant UN Treaties and Conventions and make, if necessary, appropriate proposals.

(8) The Programme shares similar objectives with other Union programmes, notably Horizon Europe, InvestEU Fund, European Defence Fund and Funds under Regulation (EU) [Common Provisions Regulation]. Therefore, cumulative funding from those programmes should be foreseen, provided they do not cover the same cost items, in particular through arrangements for complementary funding from Union programmes where management modalities permit - either in sequence, in an alternating way, or through the combination of funds including for the joint funding of actions, allowing, where possible, innovation partnerships and blending operations. During the implementation of the Programme, the Commission should therefore promote synergies with other related Union programmes and financial instruments, which would allow, where possible, use of access to risk finance, innovation partnerships, cumulative or blended funding. It should also ensure synergies and coherence between the solutions developed under those programmes, notably Horizon Europe, and the solutions developed under the Space Programme.

(8a) In accordance with Article 191(3) of the Financial Regulation, in no circumstances are the same costs to be financed twice by the Union budget, for example by both Horizon Europe and the Space Programme.

(9) The policy objectives of this Programme will also be addressed as eligible areas for financing and investment operations through financial instruments and budgetary guarantee of the InvestEU Fund, in particular under its sustainable infrastructure and research, innovation and digitisation policy windows. Financial support should be used to address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, in a proportionate manner and actions should not duplicate or crowd out private financing or distort competition in the internal market. Actions should have a clear European added value.

(10) Coherence and synergies between Horizon Europe and the Programme will foster a competitive and innovative European space sector; reinforce Europe's autonomy in accessing and using space in a secure and safe environment; and strengthen Europe's role as a global actor. Breakthrough solutions in Horizon Europe will be supported by data and services made available by the Programme to the research and innovation community.

(10a) To maximise the socio-economic return from the Programme, it is essential to maintain state-of-the-art systems, to upgrade them to meet evolving users' needs and that new developments occur in the space-enabled downstream applications sector. The Union should support activities relating to research and technology development, or the early phases of evolution relating to the infrastructures established under the Programme, as well as the research and development activities relating to applications and services based on the systems established under the programme, thereby stimulating upstream and downstream economic activities. The appropriate instrument at Union level to finance those research and innovation activities is Horizon Europe established by Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXXX. However, a very specific part of development activities should be financed from the budget allocated to the Galileo and EGNOS components under this Regulation, notably where such activities concern fundamental elements such as Galileo-enabled chipsets and receivers, which will facilitate the development of applications across different sectors of the economy. Such financing should nevertheless not jeopardise the deployment or exploitation of the infrastructures established under the Programmes.

(10x) To ensure the competitiveness of the European space industry in the future, the Programme should support the development of advanced skills in space-related fields and support education and training activities, promoting equal opportunities, including gender equality, in order to realise the full potential of Union citizens in that area.

(10b) Infrastructure dedicated to the Programme may require additional research and innovation, which may be supported under Horizon Europe, aiming for coherence with activities in this domain by the European Space Agency. Synergies with Horizon Europe should ensure that research and innovation needs of the space sector are identified and established as part of the strategic research and innovation planning process. Space data and services made freely available by the Programme will be used to develop breakthrough solutions through research and innovation, including in Horizon Europe, in support to the Union policy priorities. The strategic planning process under Horizon Europe will identify research and innovation activities that should make use of Union-owned infrastructures such as Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus. Research infrastructures, in particular in situ observing networks will constitute essential elements of the in situ observation infrastructure enabling the Copernicus Services.

(11) It is important that the Union own all tangible and intangible assets created or developed through public procurement that it finances as part of its space programme. In order to ensure full compliance with any fundamental rights relating to ownership, the necessary arrangements should be made with any existing owners. Such ownership by the Union should be without prejudice to the possibility for the Union, in accordance with this Regulation and where it is deemed appropriate on the basis of a case-by-case assessment, to make those assets available to third parties or to dispose of them.

(11a) To encourage the widest possible use of the services offered by the Programme, it would be useful to stress that data, information and services are provided without warranty without prejudice to obligations imposed by legally binding provisions.

(11b) The Commission, in performing certain of its tasks of a non-regulatory nature, may have recourse, as required and insofar as necessary, to the technical assistance of certain external parties. Other entities involved in the public governance of the Programme may also make use of the same technical assistance in performing tasks entrusted to them under this Regulation.

(12) This Regulation lays down a financial envelope for the Programme which is to constitute the prime reference amount, within the meaning of point 17 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, for the European Parliament and the Council during the annual budgetary procedure.

(13) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change in line with the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this Programme will contribute to mainstream climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of at least 30 % of the EU budget expenditures supporting climate objectives. Relevant actions will be identified during the Programme's preparation and implementation, and reassessed in the context of the relevant evaluations and review processes. The European Parliament, the Commission and the Council will cooperate on an effective, transparent and comprehensive methodology, to be set out by the Commission, in order to assess the spending under all MFF programmes to biodiversity objectives while considering the existing overlaps between climate and biodiversity goals.

(14) Revenue generated by the components of the Programme should accrue to the Union in order to partially offset the investments that it has already made, and that revenue should be used to support the achievement of the objectives of the Programme. For the same reason, it should be possible to provide for a revenue-sharing mechanism in contracts concluded with private sector entities.

(15) As the Programme is, in principle, financed by the Union, procurement contracts concluded under this programme for activities financed by the Programme should comply with Union rules. In that context, the Union should also be responsible for defining the objectives to be pursued as regards public procurement. It is to be noted that the Financial Regulation provides that, on the basis of the results of an ex ante assessment, the Commission may rely on the systems and the procedures of the persons or entities implementing Union funds. Specific adjustments necessary to these systems and procedures, as well as the arrangements for the prolongation of the existing contracts, should be defined in the corresponding financial framework partnership agreement or contribution agreement.

(16) The Programme relies on complex and constantly changing technologies. The reliance on such technologies results in uncertainty and risk for public contracts concluded under this programme, insofar as those contracts involve long-term commitments to equipment or services. Specific measures concerning public contracts are therefore required in addition to the rules laid down in the Financial Regulation. It should thus be possible to award a contract in the form of a conditional stage-payment contract, introduce an amendment, under certain conditions, in the context of its performance, or impose a minimum level of subcontracting, notably in order to enable the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups. Lastly, given the technological uncertainties that characterise the components of the Programme, contract prices cannot always be forecast accurately and it should therefore be possible to conclude contracts without stipulating a firm fixed price and to include clauses to safeguard the financial interests of the Union.

(16a) To foster public demand and public sector innovation, the Programme should promote the use of data, information and services of the Programme to support the development of customised solutions by industry and SMEs at local and regional levels through space-related innovation partnerships, as referred to in point 7 of Annex 1 of the Financial Regulation, allowing to cover all stages from development up to deployment and procurement of customised interoperable space solutions for public services.

(17) In order to meet the objectives of the Programme, it is important to be able to call, where appropriate, on capacities offered by Union public and private entities active in the space domain and also to be able to work at international level with third countries or international organisations. For that reason, provision must be made for the possibility of using all the relevant tools and management methods provided for by the Treaty and the Financial Regulation and joint procurement procedures.

(18) On grants more specifically, experience has shown that user and market uptake and general outreach work better in a decentralized manner than top-down by the Commission. Vouchers, which are a form of financial support from a grant beneficiary to third parties, have been among the actions with the highest success rate to new entrants and small and medium-sized enterprises. However, they have been hindered by the ceiling on financial support imposed by the Financial Regulation. This ceiling should therefore be raised for the EU Space Programme in order to keep pace with the growing potential of market applications in the space sector.

(19) The types of financing and the methods of implementation under this Regulation should be chosen on the basis of their ability to achieve the specific objectives of the actions and to deliver results, taking into account, in particular, the costs of controls, the administrative burden, and the expected risk of non-compliance. This should include consideration of the use of lump sums, flat rates and unit costs, as well as financing not linked to costs as referred to in [Article 125(1)] of the Financial Regulation.

(20) Regulation (EU, Euratom) No [the new FR] (the ‘Financial Regulation’) applies to this Programme. It lays down rules on the implementation of the Union budget, including the rules on grants, prizes, procurement, indirect implementation, financial assistance, financial instruments and budgetary guarantees.

(21) Pursuant to [reference to be updated as appropriate according to a new decision on OCTs: Article 88 of Council Decision .../.../EU], persons and entities established in overseas countries and territories (OCTs) should be eligible for funding subject to the rules and objectives of the Programme and possible arrangements applicable to the Member State to which the relevant overseas country or territory is linked.

(22) Horizontal financial rules adopted by the European Parliament and the Council on the basis of Article 322 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union apply to this Regulation. These rules are laid down in the Financial Regulation and determine in particular the procedure for establishing and implementing the budget through grants, procurement, prizes, indirect implementation, and provide for checks on the responsibility of financial actors. Rules adopted on the basis of Article 322 TFEU also include a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget.

(23) In accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹ (the "Financial Regulation"), Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2988/95², Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96³, the financial interests of the Union are to be protected through proportionate measures, including the prevention, detection, correction and investigation of irregularities and fraud, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, the imposition of administrative sanctions. In particular, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013⁴ and Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) may carry out administrative investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, the European Public Prosecutor's Office ("the EPPO") may investigate and prosecute fraud and other criminal offences affecting the financial interests of the Union as provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵. In accordance with the Financial Regulation, any person or entity receiving Union funds is to fully cooperate in the protection of the Union's financial interests, to grant the necessary rights and access to the Commission, OLAF, the EPPO and the European Court of Auditors (ECA) and to ensure that any third parties involved in the implementation of Union funds grant equivalent rights.

¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

² Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.95, p.1).

³ Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities; (OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 2–5).

⁴ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999, (OJ L 248, 18.9.2013, p. 1)

⁵ Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29).

(24) European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members which are members of the EEA, acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates as well as countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy may participate in the space programmes with the exception of Galileo, EGNOS, GOVSATCOM and SST in accordance with their respective agreements. Other third countries may also participate in the Programme with the exception of Galileo, EGNOS, GOVSATCOM and SST on the basis of an agreement to be concluded in accordance with Article 218 TFEU. Galileo and EGNOS should be open to the participation of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA), in accordance with the conditions laid down in the EEA Agreement. For Galileo and EGNOS, other third countries may participate in the Programme on the basis of an agreement to be concluded in accordance with Article 218 TFEU. GOVSATCOM should be open to any third country only on the basis of an agreement to be concluded in accordance with Article 218 TFEU.

(24aa) A specific provision should be introduced in this Regulation to grant the necessary rights for and access to the authorizing officer responsible, OLAF, as well as the European Court of Auditors to comprehensively exert their respective competences.

(24a) International organisations which do not have their headquarters in the Union should require an agreement concluded under Article 218 TFEU to ensure that they have access to SST services which are not publicly available. International organisations which have their headquarters in the Union and are public spacecraft owners and operators should be considered SST core users.

(24b) Publicly available information for SST services should mean any information that a user has a reasonable basis for finding lawfully accessible. Collision avoidance, re-entry and fragmentation SST services are based on external-publicly accessible SST information which is available after a request for access. Consequently, collision avoidance, re-entry and fragmentation SST services should be understood as publicly available services and should not require an agreement under Article 218 TFEU. Access to them should be available through a request from the potential users.

(25) Sound public governance of the Programme requires the clear distribution of responsibilities and tasks among the different entities involved to avoid unnecessary overlap and reduce cost overruns and delays. All the actors of the governance should support, in their field of competence and in accordance with their responsibilities, the achievement of objectives of the Programme.

(26) Member States have long been active in the field of space. They have systems, infrastructure, national agencies and bodies linked to space. They can therefore make a big contribution to the Programme, especially its implementation. They might cooperate with the Union to promote the Programme's services and applications. The Commission might be able to mobilise the means at Member States' disposal, benefit from their assistance and, subject to mutually agreed conditions, entrust the Member States with non-regulatory tasks in the execution of the Programme. Moreover, the Member States concerned should take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of the ground stations established on their territories. In addition, Member States and the Commission should work together and with appropriate international bodies and regulatory authorities to ensure that the frequencies necessary for the Programme are available and protected at the adequate level to allow for the full development and implementation of applications based on the services offered, in compliance with Decision No 243/2012/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2012 establishing a multiannual radio spectrum policy programme⁶.

(26a) In certain duly justified circumstances, the Agency might entrust specific tasks to Member States or group of Member States. That entrustment should be limited to activities the Agency is not in the capacity to execute itself and should not prejudice the governance of the Programme and the allocation of tasks as defined in this Regulation.

(27) As promoter of the Union's general interest, it is the Commission's responsibility to implement the Programme, assume overall responsibility and promote its use. In order to optimise the resources and competences of the various stakeholders, the Commission should be able to entrust certain tasks to other entities under justifiable circumstances. Having the overall responsibility for the Programme, the Commission should determine the main technical and operational requirements necessary to implement systems and services evolution. It should do so after having consulted Member States experts, users and other relevant stakeholders. Finally, noting that in the area of space, in accordance with Article 4(3) TFEU, the exercise of competence by the Union does not result in Member States being prevented from exercising theirs, the Commission should ensure the coherence of activities performed in the context of the programme.

⁶ Decision No 243/2012/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2012 establishing a multiannual radio spectrum policy programme (OJ L 81, 21.3.2012, p. 7).

(28) The mission of the European Union Agency for the Space Programme ("the Agency"), which replaces and succeeds the European GNSS Agency established by Regulation (EU) No 912/2010, is to contribute to the Programme, particularly as regards security accreditation as well as market and downstream applications development. Certain tasks linked to those areas should therefore be assigned to the Agency. In relation to security in particular, and given its experience in this area, the Agency should be responsible for the security accreditation tasks for all the Union actions in the space sector. Building on its positive track-record in promoting the user and market uptake of Galileo and EGNOS, the Agency should also be entrusted with user uptake activities relating to the Programme's components other than Galileo and EGNOS, as well as downstream application development activities for all the Programme's components. This would allow taking benefit of economies of scale and providing an opportunity for the development of applications based on several Programme's components (integrated applications) Those activities should however not prejudice the service and user uptake activities entrusted by the Commission to Copernicus entrusted entities. The entrustment of downstream applications development to the Agency does not prevent other entrusted entities to develop downstream applications. Furthermore, it should perform the tasks which the Commission confers on it by means of one or more contribution agreements under a financial framework partnership agreement covering other specific tasks associated with the programme. When entrusting tasks to the Agency, adequate human, administrative and financial resources should be made available.

(28a) Galileo and EGNOS are complex systems that require intensive coordination. Considering that Galileo and EGNOS are Union components, that coordination should be performed by a Union institution or a Union body. Building on the expertise developed in the past years, the Agency is the most appropriate body to coordinate all the operational tasks relating to the exploitation of those systems, except for the international cooperation. The Agency should therefore be entrusted with the management of the exploitation of EGNOS and Galileo. Nevertheless, this does not mean that the Agency should perform alone all the tasks relating to the exploitation of the systems. It could rely on the expertise of other entities, in particular the European Space Agency. This should include the activities on systems evolution, design and development of parts of the ground segment and satellites which should be entrusted to the European Space Agency. The allocation of tasks to other entities builds on the competence of such entities and should avoid duplication of work.

(29) The European Space Agency is an international organisation with extensive expertise in the space domain and which entered into a Framework Agreement with the European Community in 2004. It is therefore an important partner in the implementation of the Programme, with which ~~any~~ appropriate relations should be established. In this regard, and in compliance with the Financial Regulation, the Commission should conclude a financial framework partnership agreement with the European Space Agency and the Agency that governs all financial relations between the Commission, the Agency and the European Space Agency and ensures their consistency and conform to the Framework Agreement concluded between the European Community and the European Space Agency, in particular with Articles 2 and 5 thereof. However, as the European Space Agency is not a Union body and is not subject to Union law, it is essential provides that the European Space Agency takes appropriate measures to ensures the protection of the interests of the Union and its Member States and as regards budget implementation, tasks entrusted to it complies with the decisions taken by the Commission. The agreement should also contain all the clauses necessary to safeguard the Union's financial interests.

(30) The functioning of SATCEN as a European autonomous capability providing access to information and services resulting from exploitation of relevant space assets and collateral data was already acknowledged in the implementation of Decision 541/2014/EU.

(31) To structurally embed the user representation in the governance of GOVSATCOM and to aggregate user needs and requirements across national and civil-military boundaries, the relevant Union entities with close user-ties, such as the European Defence Agency, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, the European Maritime Safety Agency, the European Fisheries Control Agency, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation, the Military Planning and Conduct Capability/Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability and the Emergency Response Coordination Centre may have coordinating roles for specific user groups. At an aggregated level the Agency should coordinate user-related aspects for the civilian user communities and may monitor operational use, demand, conformance to requirements and evolving needs and requirements.

(32) Owing to the importance of space-related activities for the Union economy and the lives of Union citizens, the dual-use nature of the systems and of the applications based on those systems, achieving and maintaining a high degree of security should be a key priority for the Programme, particularly in order to safeguard the interests of the Union and of its Member States, including in relation to classified and other sensitive non-classified information.

(33) Without prejudice to Member States' prerogatives in the area of national security, the Commission and the High Representative, each within their respective area of competence, should ensure the security of the Programme in accordance with this Regulation and, where relevant, Council Decision 201X/xxx/CFSP.⁷

(33a) Given the specific expertise of EEAS and its regular contact with administrations of third countries and international organisations, the EEAS may assist the Commission in performing certain of its tasks relating to the security of the Programme in the field of external relations, in accordance with Council Decision 2010/427/EU.

⁷ This Council Decision will result from the High Representative proposal extending the scope of Council Decision 2014/496/CFSP of 22 July 2014 currently under negotiation.

(34) Without prejudice to the sole responsibility of the Member States in the area of national security, as provided for in Article 4(2) TEU, and to the right of the Member States to protect their essential security interests in accordance with Article 346 TFEU, a specific governance of security should be established to ensure a smooth implementation of the Programme. That governance should be based on three key principles. Firstly, it is imperative that Member States' extensive, unique experience in security matters be taken into consideration to the greatest possible extent. Secondly, in order to prevent conflicts of interest and any shortcomings in applying security rules, operational functions must be segregated from security accreditation functions. Thirdly, the entity in charge of managing all or part of the components of the Programme is also the best placed to manage the security of the tasks entrusted to it. The security of the Programme will build upon the experience gained in the implementation of Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus over the past years. Sound security governance also requires that roles be appropriately distributed among the various players. As it is responsible for the Programme, the Commission, without prejudice to Member States prerogatives in the area of national security, should determine the general security requirements applicable to each of the programme's components.

(34x) The cybersecurity of European space infrastructures, both ground and space, is key to ensuring the continuity of the operations of the systems and service continuity. The need to protect the systems and their services against cyberattacks, including by making use of new technologies, should therefore be duly taken into account when establishing security requirements.

(34a) A security monitoring structure should be identified by the Commission when appropriate after the risk and threat analysis. This security monitoring body should be the entity responding to instructions developed under the scope of Decision 201x/xxx/CFSP. For Galileo, that body should be the Galileo Security Monitoring Centre. With regard to the implementation of Decision 20xx/xxx/CFSP, the role of the Security Accreditation Board will be limited to providing the Council and/or the HR with inputs linked to the security accreditation of the system.

(35) In view of the uniqueness and complexity of the Programme and its link to security, recognised and well established principles should be followed for security accreditation. It is thus indispensable that security accreditation activities be carried out on the basis of collective responsibility for the security of the Union and its Member States, by endeavouring to build consensus and involving all those concerned with the issue of security, and that a procedure for permanent risk monitoring be put in place. It is also imperative that technical security accreditation activities be entrusted to professionals who are duly qualified in the field of accrediting complex systems and who have an adequate level of security clearance.

(35x) EU classified information (EUCI) is to be handled in accordance with the security rules as set out in Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 and Council Decision 2013/488/EU. In accordance with the Council Decision, the Member States are to respect the principles and minimum standards laid down therein, in order to assure that an equivalent level of protection is afforded to EUCI.

(36) To ensure the secure exchange of information, appropriate agreements should be established to ensure the protection of EU classified information provided to third countries and international organisations in the context of the Programme.

(37) An important aspect of the Programme consists in ensuring its security and strengthening the strategic autonomy across key technologies and value chains, while preserving an open economy including free and fair trade, and taking advantage of the possibilities that space offers for the security of the Union and its Member States. This objective requires in specific cases to set the requisite eligibility and participation conditions to ensure the protection of the integrity, security and resilience of the operational Union systems. This should not undermine the necessity of competitiveness and cost-effectiveness. In the evaluation for legal entities subject to control by a third country or third country entity, the Commission should take into account the principles and criteria foreseen in Regulation 2019/452 [FDI Regulation].

(37a) In the context of the Programme, there is some information which, although not classified, is to be handled according to acts already in force or to national laws, rules and regulations, including through distribution limitations.

(38) A growing number of key economic sectors, in particular transport, telecommunications, agriculture and energy, increasingly use satellite navigation and Earth observation systems.

The Programme should exploit the synergies between those sectors, taking into consideration the benefits that space technologies bring to those sectors, support the development of compatible equipment and promote the development of relevant standards and certifications. Synergies between space activities and activities linked to the security and defence of the Union and its Member States are also increasing. Having full control of satellite navigation should therefore guarantee the Union's technological independence, including in the longer term for the components of infrastructure equipment, and ensure its strategic autonomy

(39) The aim of Galileo is to establish and operate the first global satellite navigation and positioning infrastructure specifically designed for civilian purposes, which can be used by a variety of public and private actors in Europe and worldwide. Galileo functions independently of other existing or potential systems, thus contributing amongst other things to the strategic autonomy of the Union. The second generation of the system should be progressively rolled out before 2030, initially with reduced operational capacity.

(40) The aim of EGNOS is to improve the quality of open signals from existing global navigation satellite systems, in particular those emitted by the Galileo system. The services provided by EGNOS should cover, as a priority, the Member States' territories geographically located in Europe, including for this purpose Cyprus, the Azores, the Canary Islands and Madeira, by the end of 2026. In the aviation domain, all those territories should benefit from EGNOS for air navigation services for all the performance levels supported by EGNOS. Subject to technical feasibility and, for the safety of life, on the basis of international agreements, the geographical coverage of the services provided by EGNOS could be extended to other regions of the world. Without prejudice to Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 and the necessary monitoring of Galileo service quality for aviation purposes, it should be noted that while the signals emitted by Galileo may effectively be used to facilitate the positioning of aircraft, in all phase of flight, through the necessary augmentation system (local, regional, on board avionics) only local or regional augmentation systems such as EGNOS in Europe may constitute air-traffic management (ATM) services and air navigation services (ANS). The EGNOS safety-of-life service should be provided in compliance with applicable ICAO standards.

(41) It is imperative to ensure the-sustainability of the Galileo and EGNOS systems and the continuity, availability, accuracy, reliability and security of their services. In a changing environment and rapidly developing market, their development should also continue and new generations of these systems, including associated space and ground segment evolution, should be prepared.

(42) [...]

(43) The term ‘commercial service’ used in Regulation (EU) No 1285/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the implementation and exploitation of European satellite navigation systems and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 876/2002 and Regulation (EC) No 683/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸ is no longer suited in the light of the evolution of that service. Instead two separate services have been identified, namely the high-accuracy service and the authentication service.⁹

(44) In order to optimise the use of the services provided, the services provided by Galileo and EGNOS should be compatible and interoperable with one another, including at users' level, and, insofar as possible, with other satellite navigation systems and with conventional means of radio navigation where such compatibility and interoperability is laid down in an international agreement, without prejudice to the objective of strategic autonomy of the Union.

(45) Considering the importance for Galileo and EGNOS of their ground-based infrastructure and the impact thereof on their security, the determination of the location of the infrastructure should be made by the Commission. The deployment of the ground-based infrastructure of the systems should continue to follow an open and transparent process, which could involve the Agency where appropriate based on its field of competence.

(46) To maximise the socio-economic benefits of Galileo and EGNOS, while contributing to Union's strategic autonomy, notably in sensitive sectors and in the area of safety and security, the use of the services provided by EGNOS and Galileo in other Union policies should be promoted also by regulatory means where this is justified and beneficial. Measures to encourage the use of those services in all Member States are also an important part of the process.

⁸ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 1–24.

⁹ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/224 of 8 February 2017 setting out the technical and operational specifications allowing the commercial service offered by the system established under the Galileo programme to fulfil the function referred to in Article 2(4)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 1285/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, OJ L 34, 9.2.2017, p. 36-40.

(47) Copernicus should ensure an autonomous access to environmental knowledge and key technologies for Earth observation and geo-information services, thereby supporting the Union to achieve independent decision-making and actions in the fields of the environment, climate change, marine, maritime, agriculture and rural development, preservation of cultural heritage, civil protection, land and infrastructure monitoring, security, as well as the digital economy, among others.

(47b) The Programme's components should stimulate the application of digital technology in space systems, data and service distribution, downstream development. In that context the particular attention should be given to the initiatives and actions proposed by the Commission in its Communication of 14 September 2016 entitled 'Connectivity for a Competitive Digital Single Market – Towards a European Gigabit Society' and Communication of 14 September 2016 entitled '5G for Europe: An Action Plan'.

(48) Copernicus should build on, ensure continuity with and enhance the activities and achievements under Regulation (EU) No 377/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁰ establishing the Union Earth observation and monitoring programme (Copernicus) as well as Regulation (EU) No 911/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Earth monitoring programme (GMES) and its initial operations¹¹ establishing the predecessor Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) programme and the rules for implementation of its initial operations, taking into account recent trends in research, technological advances and innovations impacting the Earth observation domain, as well as developments in big data analytics and Artificial Intelligence and related strategies and initiatives at Union level¹². For the development of new assets, the Commission should work closely with Member States, the European Space Agency, EUMETSAT and, where appropriate, other entities owning relevant space and in situ assets. To the greatest extent possible, it should make use of capacities for space-borne observations of the Member States, the European Space Agency, EUMETSAT¹³, as well as other entities, including commercial initiatives in Europe, thereby also contributing to the development of a viable commercial space sector in Europe. Where feasible and appropriate, it should also make use of the available in situ and ancillary data provided mainly by the Member States in accordance with Directive 2007/2/EC¹⁴. The Commission should work together with the Member States and the European Environment Agency to ensure an efficient access and use of the in-situ data sets for Copernicus.

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) No 377/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 April 2014 establishing the Copernicus Programme and repealing Regulation (EU) No 911/2010 (OJ L 122, 24.4.2014, p. 44).

¹¹ Regulation (EU) No 911/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2010 on the European Earth monitoring programme (GMES) and its initial operations (2011 to 2013)(OJ L 276, 20.10.2010, p. 1).

¹² Communication "Artificial Intelligence for Europe" (COM(2018) 237 final) , Communication "Towards a common European data space" (COM(2018) 232 final), Proposal for a Council Regulation on establishing the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (COM(2018) 8 final).

¹³ The European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites

¹⁴ Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE)

(49) Copernicus should be implemented in accordance with the objectives of Directive 2003/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the re-use of public sector information amended by Directive 2013/37/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 amending Directive 2003/98/EC on the re-use of public sector information¹⁵, in particular transparency, the creation of conditions conducive to the development of services, and contributing to economic growth and job creation in the Union. Copernicus data and Copernicus information should be available freely and openly.

(49a) The full potential of Copernicus for the Union society and economy should be fully unleashed beyond direct beneficiaries by means of an intensification of user uptake measures, which requires further action to render the data usable by non-specialists and thereby stimulate growth, job creation and knowledge transfers.

(50) Copernicus is a user-driven programme. Its evolution should therefore be based on the evolving requirements of the Copernicus core users, while also recognising the emergence of new user communities either public or private. Copernicus should base itself on an analysis of options to meet evolving user needs, including those related to implementation, and monitoring of Union policies which require the continuous, effective involvement of users, particularly regarding the definition and validation of requirements.

(51) Copernicus is already operational. It is therefore important to ensure the continuity of the infrastructure and services already in place, whilst adapting to the changing user needs, market environment, notably the emergence of private actors in space (“New Space”) and socio-political developments for which a rapid response is needed. This requires an evolution of the functional structure of Copernicus to better reflect the shift from the first stage of operational services to the provision of advanced and more targeted services to new user communities and the fostering of added-value downstream markets. To this end, its further implementation should adopt an approach following the data value chain, i.e. data acquisition, data and information processing, distribution and exploitation, user, market uptake and capacity building activities, while the strategic planning process under Horizon Europe will identify research and innovation activities that should make use of Copernicus.

¹⁵ OJ L 175, 27.6.2013, p. 1–8.

(52) With regard to data acquisition, the activities under Copernicus should aim at completing and maintaining the existing space infrastructure, preparing the long-term replacement of the satellites at the end of their lifetime, as well as initiating new missions addressing in particular new observation systems to support meeting the challenge of global climate change (e.g. anthropogenic CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions monitoring). Activities under Copernicus should expand their global monitoring coverage over the polar regions and support environmental compliance assurance, statutory environmental monitoring and reporting and innovative environmental applications in agriculture, forest, water and marine resources management and cultural heritage (e.g. for crops monitoring, water management and enhanced fire monitoring). In doing so, Copernicus should leverage and take maximum advantage of the investments made under the previous funding period (2014-2020), including those made by Member States, ESA and EUMETSAT, while exploring new operational and business models to further complement the Copernicus capacities. Copernicus -might also build on successful partnerships with Member States to further develop its security dimension under appropriate governance mechanisms, in order to respond to evolving user needs in the security domain.

(53) As part of the data and information processing function, Copernicus should ensure the long-term sustainability and further development of Copernicus services, providing information in order to satisfy public sector needs and those arising from the Union's international commitments, and to maximise opportunities for commercial exploitation. In particular, Copernicus should deliver, at the local, national, European and global scale, information on the composition of the atmosphere and air quality; information on the state and dynamics of the oceans; information in support of land and ice monitoring supporting the implementation of local, national and Union policies; information in support of climate change adaptation and mitigation; geospatial information in support of emergency management, including through prevention activities, environmental compliance assurance, as well as civil security including support for the Union's external action. The Commission should identify appropriate contractual arrangements fostering the sustainability of service provision.

(54) In the implementation of the Copernicus Services, the Commission should rely on competent entities, relevant Union agencies, groupings or consortia of national bodies, or any relevant body potentially eligible for a contribution agreement. In the selection of these entities, the Commission should ensure that there is no disruption in the operations and provision of services and that, where security-sensitive data is concerned, the entities concerned have early warning and crisis monitoring capabilities within the context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and, in particular, of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

In accordance with Article 154 of the Financial Regulation, persons and entities entrusted with the implementation of Union funds are obliged to respect the principle of non-discrimination towards all Member States; this principle should be ensured through the relevant contribution agreements relating to the provision of the Copernicus services.

(55) The implementation of the Copernicus services should facilitate the public uptake of services as users would be able to anticipate the availability and evolution of services as well as cooperation with Member States and other parties. To this end, the Commission and its entrusted entities providing services should engage closely with core user communities across Europe in further developing the Copernicus services and information portfolio to ensure that evolving public sector and policy needs are met and thus the uptake of Earth observation data can be maximised. The Commission and Member States should work together to develop the in-situ component of Copernicus and to facilitate the integration of in-situ datasets with space datasets for upgraded Copernicus services.

(55a) Copernicus's free, full and open data policy has been evaluated as one of the most successful elements of Copernicus' implementation and has been instrumental in driving strong demand for its data and information, establishing Copernicus as one of the largest EO data provider in the world. There is a clear need to guarantee the long-term and secure continuity of the free, full and open data provision and access should be safeguarded in order to realise the ambitious goals as set out in the Space Strategy for Europe (2016). Copernicus data is created primarily for the benefit of European citizens, and by making this data freely available worldwide collaboration opportunities are maximized for EU businesses and academics and contribute to an effective European space ecosystem. Should any limitation be placed on the access to Copernicus data and information, it should be in line with the Copernicus data policy as defined in this Regulation and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1159/2013.

(56) The data and information produced in the framework of Copernicus should be made available on a full, open and free-of-charge basis subject to appropriate conditions and limitations, in order to promote their use and sharing, and to strengthen the European Earth observation markets, in particular the downstream sector, thereby enabling growth and job creation in the Union. Such provision should continue to provide data and information with high levels of consistency, continuity, reliability, and quality. This calls for large-scale and user-friendly access to, processing and exploitation of Copernicus data and information, at various timeliness levels, for which the Commission should continue to follow an integrated approach, both at EU and Member States level, enabling also integration with other sources of data and information. Therefore the Commission should take the necessary measures to ensure that Copernicus data and information is easily and efficiently accessible and usable, notably by promoting the Data and Information Access Services (DIAS) within Member States and when possible fostering interoperability between the existing European EO data infrastructures to establish synergies with these assets in order to maximise and strengthen market uptake of Copernicus data and information.

(57) The Commission should work with data providers to agree licensing conditions for third-party data to facilitate their use within Copernicus, in compliance with this Regulation and applicable third-party rights. As some Copernicus data and Copernicus information, including high-resolution images, may have an impact on the security of the Union or its Member States, in duly justified cases, measures in order to deal with risks and threats to the security of the Union or its Member States may be adopted.

(58) The provisions of legal acts adopted under previous regulations without ending date should remain valid unless in contradiction with the new regulation. This concerns in particular the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1159/2013 establishing the registration and licensing conditions for GMES users and defining criteria for restricting access to GMES dedicated data and GMES service information¹⁶.

(59) To promote and facilitate the use of Earth observation data and technologies both by local, regional or national authorities, by small and medium-sized enterprises, scientists and researchers, dedicated networks for Copernicus data distribution, including national and regional bodies such as Copernicus Relays and Copernicus Academies, should be promoted through user uptake activities. To this end, the Commission and the Member States should strive to establish closer links between Copernicus and Union and national policies in order to drive the demand for commercial applications and services and enable enterprises, particular small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups, to develop applications based on Copernicus data and information aiming at developing a competitive Earth observation data eco-system in Europe.

¹⁶ OJ L 309, 19.11.2013, p. 1–6.

(60) In the international domain, Copernicus should provide accurate and reliable information for cooperation with third countries and international organisations, and in support of the Union's external and development cooperation policies. Copernicus should be considered as a European contribution to the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. It should establish or maintain appropriate cooperation with relevant sectoral UN bodies and the World Meteorological Organisation.

(61) In the implementation of Copernicus, the Commission should rely, where appropriate, on European international organisations with which it has already established partnerships, in particular the European Space Agency for the development, coordination, implementation and evolution of the space-components, access to third party data where appropriate and when not undertaken by other entities the operation of dedicated missions. In addition, the Commission should rely on EUMETSAT for the operation of dedicated missions or parts thereof and, where appropriate, access to contributing mission data in accordance with its expertise and mandate.

(61a) In the domain of services, the Commission should take appropriate benefit from the specific capacities provided by Union Agencies such as the European Environment Agency, the European Maritime Safety Agency, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, SATCEN, as well as the intergovernmental European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts and the European investments made already in marine environment monitoring services through Mercator Ocean. On security, a comprehensive approach at Union level will be sought with the High Representative. The Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the Commission has been actively involved from the start of the GMES initiative and has supported developments for Galileo and space weather. Under Regulation (EU) No 377/2014; the JRC is managing the Copernicus emergency management service and the global component of the Copernicus land monitoring service; it is contributing to the review of the quality and fitness for purpose of data and information, and to the future evolution. The Commission should continue relying on JRC's scientific and technical advice for the implementation of the Programme.

(62) Following the requests of the European Parliament and of the Council and, the Union established a support framework for space surveillance and tracking (SST) by means of Decision No 541/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 establishing a Framework for Space Surveillance and Tracking Support. Space debris has become a serious threat to the security, safety and sustainability of space activities. The SST is therefore primordial to preserve the continuity of the Programme's components and their contributions to Union policies. By seeking to prevent the proliferation of space debris, SST contributes to ensuring the sustainable and guaranteed access to and use of space, which is a global common objective. In that context, it could support the preparation of European earth orbit 'clean-up' projects.

(63) The SST should further develop the performance and autonomy of SST capabilities. To this end, it should lead to the establishment of an autonomous European catalogue of space objects, building on data from the network of SST sensors. Where appropriate, the Union could consider making some of its data available for commercial, non-commercial and research purposes. The SST should also continue to support operation and delivery of SST services. As SST services are user-driven, appropriate mechanisms should be put in place to collect user requirements, including those relating to security and the transmission of relevant information to and from public institutions to improve the effectiveness of the system, while respecting national safety and security policies.

(64) The delivery of SST services should be based on a cooperation between the Union and the Member States and on the use of existing as well as future national expertise and assets, including those developed through the European Space Agency or by the Union. It should be possible to provide financial support for the development of new SST sensors. Recognising the sensitive nature of the SST, the control over national sensors and their operations, maintenance and renewal and the processing of data leading to the provision of SST services should remain with the participating Member States.

(65) Member States with adequate ownership or access to SST capabilities should be able to participate in the delivery of the SST services. Participating Member States in the SST Consortium established under the Decision No 541/2014/EU should be deemed to comply with these criteria. Those Member States should submit a single joint proposal and demonstrate compliance with further elements related to the operational set up. Appropriate rules should be established for the selection and organisation of Member States participants.

(65a) Implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission to define the detailed procedures and elements for establishing the participation of Member States. Where no joint proposal has been submitted or where the Commission considers that such proposal does not comply with the criteria set, the Commission may launch a second step for the participation of Member States. The procedures and elements for that second step should define the orbits to be covered, and take into account the need to maximise the participation of Member States in the provision of SST services. Where those procedures and elements foresee the possibility for the Commission to select several proposals to cover all the orbits, appropriate coordination mechanisms between the groups of Member States and an efficient solution to cover all the SST services should also be provided.

(66) Once SST is set up, it should respect the principles of complementarity of activities and continuity of high quality user-driven SST services, and be based on the best expertise. SST should therefore avoid unnecessary duplication. Redundant capabilities should ensure SST services' continuity, quality and robustness. The activities of the Expert Teams should help avoiding these unnecessary duplications.

(67) In addition, the SST should be conducive to existing mitigation measures, such as the COPUOS Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines and Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, or other initiatives, to ensure the safety, security and sustainability of outer space activities. With a view to reducing risks of collision, the SST would also seek synergies with initiatives of active removal and passivation measures of space debris. The SST should contribute to ensuring the peaceful use and exploration of outer space. The increase in space activities may have implication on the international initiatives in the area of the space traffic management. The Union should monitor those developments and may take them into consideration in the context of the mid-term review of the current multiannual financial framework.

(68) SST, space weather and NEO activities should have regard to cooperation with international partners, in particular the United States of America, international organisations and other third parties, particularly to avoid collisions in space, to prevent the proliferation of space debris and to increase preparedness to effects of extreme space weather events and near-Earth objects.

(69) The Security Committee of the Council recommended the creation of a risk management structure to ensure that data security issues are duly taken into account in the implementation of Decision No 541/2014/EU. For that purpose and taking account of the work already performed, the appropriate risk management structures and procedures should be established by the participating Member States.

(70) Extreme and major space weather events may threaten the safety of citizens and disrupt the operations of space-based and ground-based infrastructure. A space weather sub-component should therefore be established as part the Programme with an aim of assessing the space weather risks and corresponding user needs, raising the awareness of space weather risks, ensuring the delivery of user-driven space weather services, and improving Member States' capabilities to produce space weather service. The Commission should prioritise the sectors to which the operational space weather services are to be provided taking into account the user needs, risks and technological readiness. In the long term, the needs of other sectors may be addressed. The delivery of services at Union level according to the users' needs will require targeted, coordinated and continued research and development activities to support space weather services evolution. The delivery of the space weather services should build on the existing national and Union capabilities and enable a broad participation of Member States, European and international organisations, and involvement of the private sector.

(71) The Commission White Paper on the future of Europe¹⁷, the Rome Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of 27 EU Member States¹⁸, and several European Parliament resolutions, recall that the EU has a major role to play in ensuring a safe, secure and resilient Europe that is capable to address challenges such as regional conflicts, terrorism, cyber threats, and growing migration pressures. Secure and guaranteed access to satellite communications is an indispensable tool for security actors, and pooling and sharing of this key security resource at Union level strengthens a Union that protects its citizens.

¹⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/white_paper_on_the_future_of_europe_en.pdf

¹⁸ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/intm/146072.pdf

(72) The European Council of 19-20 December 2013¹⁹ in its conclusions welcomed in the area of Satellite Communication the preparations for the next generation of Governmental Satellite Communication (GOVSATCOM) through close cooperation between the Member States, the Commission and the European Space Agency. GOVSATCOM has also been identified as one of the elements of the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy of June 2016. GOVSATCOM should contribute to the EU response to Hybrid Threats, provide support to the EU Maritime Strategy and to the EU Arctic Policy.

(73) GOVSATCOM is a user-centric programme with a strong security dimension. The use-cases may be analysed by the relevant actors for three main families: i) crisis management, which may include civilian and military Common Security and Defence missions and operations, natural and man-made disasters, humanitarian crises, and maritime emergencies; ii) surveillance, which may include border surveillance, pre-frontier surveillance sea-border surveillance, maritime surveillance, surveillance of illegal trafficking; and iii) key infrastructures, which may include diplomatic network, police communications, digital infrastructure (e. g. data centres, servers), critical infrastructures (e.g. energy, transport, water barriers such as dams) and space infrastructures.

(73a) GOVSATCOM capacity and services will be used in security and safety critical missions and operations by Union and Member State actors. Therefore an appropriate level of non-dependence from third parties (third states and entities from third states) is needed, covering all GOVSATCOM elements, such as space and ground technologies at component, subsystem and system level, manufacturing industries, owners and operators of space systems, physical location of ground system components.

(74) Satellite communications is a finite resource limited by the satellite capacity, frequency and geographic coverage. Therefore, in order to be cost-effective and to capitalise on economies of scale, GOVSATCOM needs to optimise the match between the GOVSATCOM demand by authorised users, and the supply provided under GOVSATCOM contracts for satellite capacities and services. Since the demand and the potential supply both change with time, this requires constant monitoring and flexibility to adjust GOVSATCOM services.

¹⁹ EUCO 217/13

(75) Operational requirements will be derived on the basis of the use-case analysis. From those operational requirements, in combination with security requirements, the service portfolio should be developed. The service portfolio should establish the applicable baseline for the services to be provided through GOVSATCOM. In order to maintain the best possible match between the demand and supplied services, the GOVSATCOM service portfolio may need to be regularly updated.

(76) In the first phase of GOVSATCOM (roughly until 2025) existing capacity will be used. In that context, the Commission should procure EU GOVSATCOM capacities from Member States with national systems and space capacities and from commercial satellite communication or service providers, taking into account the essential security interests of the Union. In this first phase services will be introduced in a stepped approach. If in the course of the first phase a detailed analysis of future supply and demand reveals that this approach is insufficient to cover the evolving demand, the decision may be taken to move to a second phase and develop additional bespoke space infrastructure or capabilities through one or several public-private partnerships, e.g. with Union satellite operators.

(77) In order to optimise the available satellite communication resources, to guarantee access in unpredictable situations, such as natural disasters, and to ensure operational efficiency and short turn-around times, the necessary ground segment (Hubs and potential other ground elements) is required. The latter should be designed on the basis of operational and security requirements. In order to mitigate risks the Hub may consist of several physical sites. Other ground segment elements, such as anchoring stations, may be needed.

(78) For users of satellite communications the user equipment is the all-important operational interface. The EU GOVSATCOM approach should make it possible for most users to continue to use their existing user equipment for GOVSATCOM services.

(79) In the interest of operational efficiency users have indicated that it is important to aim for interoperability of user equipment, and user equipment that can make use of different satellite systems. Research and development in this domain may be required.

(80) At implementation level the tasks and responsibilities should be distributed amongst specialised entities, such as the European Defence Agency, the EEAS, the European Space Agency, the Agency, and other Union agencies in such a manner to ensure that they align with their principal role, especially for user related aspects.

(81) The competent GOVSATCOM authority has an important role to monitor that users, and other national entities that play a role in GOVSATCOM, comply with the sharing and prioritisation rules and security procedures as laid down in the security requirements. A Member State which has not designated a competent GOVSATCOM authority should in any event designate a point of contact for the management of any detected jamming affecting GOVSATCOM.

(81a) Member States, the Council, the Commission and the EEAS may become GOVSATCOM participants, insofar as they choose to authorise GOVSATCOM users or provide capacities, sites or facilities. Considering that it is a Member State's choice whether they authorise GOVSATCOM users or provide capacities, sites or facilities, Member States cannot be obliged to become GOVSATCOM participants or to host GOVSATCOM infrastructure. The GOVSATCOM component of the Programme is therefore without prejudice to the right of Member States not to participate in GOVSATCOM, including in accordance with its national law or constitutional requirements in relation to policies concerning non-alignment and non-participation in military alliances.

(82) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers regarding operational requirements for services provided under GOVSATCOM should be conferred on the Commission. It will give the possibility to the Commission to define technical specifications for use-cases related to crisis management, surveillance and key infrastructure management, including diplomatic communication networks. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

(83) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers regarding the service portfolio for services provided under GOVSATCOM, should be conferred on the Commission. It will give the possibility to the Commission to define attributes, including geographic coverage, frequency, bandwidth, user equipment, and security features. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

(84) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers regarding the sharing and prioritisation rules for the use of pooled GOVSATCOM satellite communication capacities, should be conferred on the Commission. When defining the sharing and prioritisation rules, the Commission should take into account the operational and security requirements and an analysis of risks and expected demand by GOVSATCOM participants. Although GOVSATCOM services should in principle be provided on a free-of-charge basis to GOVSATCOM users, if that analysis concludes on a shortage of capacities and in order to avoid a distortion of the market, a pricing policy might be developed as part of those detailed rules on sharing and prioritisation. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

(85) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers regarding the location of the ground segment infrastructure for GOVSATCOM, should be conferred on the Commission. It will give the possibility to the Commission take into account the operational and security requirements, as well as existing infrastructure for the selection of such locations. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

(86) *moved up, now Recital (10b)*

(87) Regulation (EU) No 912/2010 established a Union agency, called the European GNSS Agency, to manage certain aspects of the Galileo and EGNOS satellite navigation programmes. The present Regulation provides in particular that the European GNSS Agency will be entrusted with new tasks, not only in respect of Galileo and EGNOS but also for other components of the Programme, especially security accreditation. The name, tasks and organisational aspects of the European GNSS Agency must therefore be adapted accordingly.

(87a) The seat of the Agency is located in Prague in accordance with Decision 2010/803/EU. For the implementation of the Agency's tasks, staff of the Agency might be located in one of the Galileo or EGNOS ground based centres referred to in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/413 to execute Programme activities provided for in the relevant agreement. In addition, for the Agency to operate in the most efficient and effective manner, a limited number of staff could be assigned to local offices in one or more Member States. The location of staff outside the seat of the Agency or Galileo and EGNOS sites should not lead to transfer of core of the Agency's activities to such local offices.

(88) In view of its extended scope, which will no longer be limited to Galileo and EGNOS, the name of the European GNSS Agency should henceforth be changed. However, the continuity of the activities of the European GNSS Agency, including continuity as regards rights and obligations, staff and the validity of any decisions taken, should be ensured under the Agency.

(89) Given the Agency's mandate and the role of the Commission in implementing the Programme, it is appropriate to provide that some of the decisions taken by the Administrative Board should not be adopted without the favourable vote of the representatives of the Commission.

(90) Without prejudice to the powers of the Commission, the Administrative Board, the Security Accreditation Board and the Executive Director shall be independent in the performance of their duties and shall act in the public interest.

(91) It is possible, and indeed probable, that some components of the Programme will be based on the use of sensitive or security-related national infrastructure. In this case, for reasons of national security, it is necessary to stipulate that meetings of the Administrative Board and Security Accreditation Board be attended by the representatives of the Member States and the representatives of the Commission, on a need to know basis. In the Administrative Board, only those representatives of Member States which possess such infrastructure and a representative of the Commission are to take part in voting. The rules of procedure of the Administrative Board and of the Security Accreditation Board should set out the situations in which this procedure applies.

(92) *moved up, now Recital (11a)*

(93) *moved up, now Recital (11b)*

(94) Pursuant to paragraphs 22 and 23 of the Inter-Institutional agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016, there is a need to evaluate the Programme on the basis of information collected through specific monitoring requirements, while avoiding overregulation and administrative burdens, in particular on Member States. These requirements can, where appropriate, include measurable indicators, as a basis for evaluating the effects of the programme.

(94a) The use of Copernicus and Galileo based services is predicted to have a major impact in the European economy in general. However, ad hoc measurements and case studies seem to dominate the picture today. The Commission, through Eurostat, should define relevant statistical measurements and indicators that would form the basis for monitoring the impact of the EU space activities in a systematic and authoritative way.

(95) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011. The Commission should be assisted by a Committee which should meet in specific configuration.

(95a) Since the Programme's components are user driven, they require the continuous, effective involvement of users for their implementation and development, particularly regarding the definition and validation of service requirements. In order to increase the value for the users, their input should be actively sought through regular consultation with end-users from the public and private sectors of the Union's Member States and where appropriate international organisations. For that purpose, a working group (the 'User Forum') should be set up to assist the Programme Committee with the identification of user requirements, and the verification of service compliance, as well as the identification of gaps in services provided. The rules of procedure of the Committee should establish the organisation of that working group to take into account the specificities of each component and each service within the components. Whenever possible, Member States should contribute to the User Forum based on a systematic and coordinated consultation of users at national level.

(96) As sound public governance requires uniform management of the Programme, faster decision-making and equal access to information, representatives of the entities entrusted with tasks related to this programme might be able to take part as observers in the work of the committee established in application of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011. For the same reasons, representatives of third countries and international organisations who have concluded an international agreement with the Union, relating to the Programme or its components or sub-components, might be able to take part in the work of the committee subject to security constraints and as provided for in the terms of such agreement. The representatives of entities entrusted with tasks related to the Programme, third countries and international organisations are not entitled to take part in committee voting procedures. The conditions for the participation of observers and ad hoc participants should be laid down in the rules of procedure of the Committees.

(97) In order to ensure effective assessment of progress of the Programme towards the achievement of its objectives, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of amending Annex X to review or complement the indicators where considered necessary and to supplement this Regulation with provisions on the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation framework. It is of particular importance that the Commission carry out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level, and that those consultations be conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016. In particular, to ensure equal participation in the preparation of delegated acts, the European Parliament and the Council receive all documents at the same time as Member States' experts, and their experts systematically have access to meetings of Commission expert groups dealing with the preparation of delegated acts.

(98) Since the objective of this Regulation cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States since it goes beyond the financial and technical capacities of any single Member State, and can therefore, by reason of its scale and effects, be better achieved by action at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 TEU. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective,

(99) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of the Programme's security requirements, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Member States should be able to exert a maximum of control over the programme's security requirements. When adopting implementing acts in the area of security of the Programme, the Commission should be assisted by a committee composed of Member States' representatives meeting in a dedicated security configuration. Those implementing acts should be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure set out in Regulation 182/2011. In view of the sensitivity of security matters, the chair should endeavour to find solutions which command the widest possible support within the committee. The Commission should not adopt implementing acts determining the general security requirements of the programme in cases where no opinion is delivered by the committee.

(99a) The Programme should be established for a period of seven years to align its duration with that of the multiannual financial framework laid down in Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No [reference to the MFF Regulation to be inserted]. The European Union Agency for the Space Programme, which carries out its own tasks, is not subject to this time limitation.

(99b) In order to ensure continuity in providing support in the relevant policy area and to allow implementation as of the beginning of the multi-annual financial framework 2021-2027, it is necessary to provide for the application of this Regulation from the beginning of the 2021 financial year.

(99c) The European Parliament and the Council should be promptly informed of the Work Programmes.

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

TITLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Subject matter

1. This Regulation establishes the space programme of the Union ('Programme') for the duration of the MFF 2021 - 2027. It lays down the objectives of the Programme, the budget for the period 2021 – 2027, the forms of Union funding and the rules for providing such funding, as well as the rules for the implementation of the Programme.
2. This Regulation establishes the European Union Agency for the Space Programme ('Agency') that replaces and succeeds the European GNSS Agency established by Regulation (EU) No 912/2010 and lays down the rules of operation of the Agency.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purpose of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:

- (0) Space surveillance and tracking (SST) system means a network of ground-based and space-based sensors capable of surveying and tracking space objects, together with processing capabilities aiming to provide data, information and services on space objects that orbit around the Earth.
- (1) 'spacecraft' means an orbiting object designed to perform a specific, function or mission (e.g. communications, navigation or Earth observation) including satellites-launcher upper stages, re-entry vehicle). A spacecraft that can no longer fulfil its intended mission is considered non-functional. Spacecraft in reserve or standby modes awaiting possible reactivation are considered functional.
- (2) 'space weather events' means naturally occurring variations in the space environment at the Sun and around the Earth. Space weather effects include solar flares, solar energetic particles, variations in the solar wind, coronal mass ejections, geomagnetic storms –and dynamics, radiation storms and ionospheric disturbances potentially impacting Earth and space-based infrastructures;
- (3) 'near earth objects' (NEO) means natural objects in the solar system approaching the Earth;

- (4) 'space object' means any man-made object in outer space;
- (5) 'space situational awareness' ('SSA') means a holistic approach, including comprehensive knowledge and understanding, of the main space hazards, encompassing collision between space objects, fragmentation and reentry of space objects into the atmosphere, space weather phenomena, and near earth objects;
- (6) 'blending operation' means actions supported by the EU budget, including within blending facilities pursuant to Article 2(6) of the Financial Regulation, combining non-repayable forms of support and/or financial instruments and/or budgetary guarantees from the EU budget with repayable forms of support from development or other public finance institutions, as well as from commercial finance institutions and investors;
- (7) 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, Union law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without a legal personality in accordance with Article 197(2)(c) of the Financial Regulation;
- (8) 'third country' means a country that is not a Member State of the Union;
- (9) 'SST information' means processed SST data which is readily meaningful to the recipient;
- (10) 'SST data' means physical parameters of space objects, including space debris, acquired by SST sensors or orbital parameters of space objects derived from SST sensors' observations in the framework of the space surveillance and tracking ('SST') component;
- (11) 'return link' means a functional capacity of the Galileo search and rescue support service; the Galileo SAR service will contribute to the global monitoring service of aircraft, monitoring defined by the International Civil Aviation Organisation;
- (12) 'Copernicus sentinels' means the Copernicus dedicated satellites, spacecraft or spacecraft payloads for space-borne Earth observation;
- (13) 'Copernicus data' means data provided by the Sentinels, including their metadata;
- (14) 'Copernicus third-party data and information' means spatial data and information licensed or made available for use by Copernicus which originate from sources other than the Sentinels;

(14a) Copernicus Services’ mean value-added services of general and common interest to the Union and Member States, which are financed by the Programme and which transform Earth Observation data, in situ data and other ancillary data into processed, aggregated and interpreted information tailored to the needs of Copernicus users;

(15) ‘Copernicus *in situ* data’ means observation data from groundborne, seaborne or airborne sensors, as well as reference and ancillary data licensed or provided for use in Copernicus;

(16) ‘Copernicus information’ means information generated by the Copernicus Services following processing or modelling, including their metadata;

(17) ‘fiduciary entity’ means a legal entity that is independent from the Commission or a third party and that receives data from the Commission or that third party for the purpose of safe storage and treatment of that data;

(18) ‘space debris’ means any space object including spacecraft or fragments and elements thereof in Earth's orbit or re-entering Earth's atmosphere, that are non-functional or no longer serve any specific purpose, including parts of rockets or artificial satellites, or inactive artificial satellites;

(19) ‘SST sensor’ means a device or a combination of devices, ground-based or space-based radars, lasers and telescopes, that is able to perform space surveillance or tracking and can measure physical parameters related to space objects, such as size, location and velocity;

(19a) ‘GOVSATCOM participant’ means a Member States, Council, the Commission and EEAS, as well as Union agencies, third countries and international organisations, in so far as such agencies, third countries and international organisations have been duly authorised;

(20) ‘GOVSATCOM user’ means a Union or Member State public authority, a body entrusted with the exercise of public authority, or a natural or legal person, duly authorised and entrusted with tasks relating to the supervision and management of security-critical missions, operations and infrastructures;

(20a) ‘GOVSATCOM Hub’ means an operational centre with the main function to link in a secure manner the GOVSATCOM users to the providers of GOVSATCOM capacity and services, and thereby optimise the supply and demand at any given moment.

(21) 'GOVSATCOM use-case' means an operational scenario in a particular environment in which GOVSATCOM services are required;

(21a) EU classified information (EUCI)' means any information or material designated by a EU security classification, the unauthorised disclosure of which could cause varying degrees of prejudice to the interests of the European Union or of one or more of the Member States;

(22) 'sensitive non-classified information' means non-classified information within the meaning of Article 9 of Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443, which creates an obligation to protect sensitive non-classified information applying solely to the European Commission and to Union agencies and bodies obliged by law to apply the security rules of the Commission;

(23) 'Copernicus users' means:

'Copernicus core users' which benefit from Copernicus data and Copernicus information and have the additional role of driving the evolution of Copernicus, are the Union institutions and bodies and European, national, or regional public bodies in the Union or Copernicus Participating States entrusted with a public service mission for the definition, implementation, enforcement or monitoring of civilian public policies, among others environmental, civil protection, safety, including safety of infrastructure, or security policies;

'other Copernicus users' which benefit from Copernicus data and Copernicus information and include in particular research and education organisations, commercial and private bodies, charities, non-governmental organisations, and international organisations.

(24) 'Copernicus Participating States' means third countries which contribute financially and participate in Copernicus under the terms of an international agreement concluded with the Union.

Article 3

Components of the Programme

The Programme shall consist of the following components:

- (a) an autonomous civil global navigation satellite system (GNSS) under civil control comprising a constellation of satellites, centres and a global network of stations on the ground, offering positioning, navigation and timing services and integrating the needs and requirements of security ('Galileo');
- (b) a civil regional satellite navigation system under civil control which consists of centres and stations on the ground and several transponders installed on geosynchronous satellites and which augments and corrects the open signals emitted by Galileo and other GNSSs, *inter alia* for air-traffic management, air navigation services and other transport systems ('European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service or 'EGNOS');
- (c) an operational, autonomous, user-driven, civil Earth observation system under civil control, building on the existing national and European capacities, offering geo-information data and services comprising satellites, ground infrastructure, data and information processing facilities, and distribution infrastructure, based on a full, free and open data policy and, where appropriate, integrating the needs and requirements of security ('Copernicus');
- (d) a space surveillance and tracking system aiming to improve, operate and provide data, information and services related to the surveillance and tracking of space objects that orbit around the Earth ('SST' sub-component) and complemented by observational parameters related to space weather events ('SWE' sub-component) and the risk monitoring of near earth objects ('NEOs sub-component') approaching the Earth (Space Situational Awareness, 'SSA');
- e) a satellite communications service under civil and governmental control enabling the provision of satellite communications capacities and services to Union and Member State authorities managing security critical missions and infrastructures ('GOVSATCOM').

The Programme shall include additional measures for ensuring efficient and autonomous access to space for the Programme and for fostering an innovative and competitive European space sector, upstream and downstream, strengthening the Union's space ecosystem and reinforcing the Union as a global player.

Article 4

Objectives

1. The Programme shall have the following general objectives:
 - (a) provide, or contribute to the provision of, high-quality and up-to-date and, where appropriate, secure space-related data, information and services without interruption and wherever possible at global level, meeting existing and future needs and able to support the Union's political priorities and related evidence-based and independent decision making, inter alia for climate change and, transport, security;
 - (b) maximise the socio-economic benefits, in particular by fostering the development of an innovative and competitive European upstream and downstream sectors, including small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups, thereby enabling growth and job creation in the Union and promoting the widest possible uptake and use of the data, information and services provided by the Programme's components both within and outside the Union; while ensuring synergies and complementarity with the Union's research and technological development activities carried out under the Horizon Europe Regulation;
 - (c) enhance safety, the security of the Union and its Member States, and reinforce its autonomy, in particular in terms of technologies;
 - (d) promote the role of the Union global actor in the space sector, encourage international cooperation, reinforce European space diplomacy, including by fostering the principles of reciprocity and fair competition and strengthen its role in tackling global challenges, supporting global initiatives, including with regards to sustainable development, and raising awareness of space as a common heritage of humankind.
 - (e) enhance safety, security and sustainability of all outer space activities pertaining to space objects and debris proliferation, as well as space environment, by implementing appropriate measures, including development and deployment of technologies for spacecraft disposal at the end of operational lifetime and for space debris disposal.

2. The Programme shall have the following specific objectives:
- (a) for Galileo and EGNOS: to provide long-term, state-of-the-art and secure positioning, navigation and timing services whilst ensuring service continuity and robustness;
 - (b) for Copernicus: to deliver accurate and reliable Earth Observation data, information and services integrating other data sources, supplied on a long-term sustainable basis, to support the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the Union and its Member States' policies and actions based on user requirements;
 - (c) for Space Situational Awareness ('SSA'): to enhance SST capabilities to monitor, track and identify space objects and space debris with the aim to—further increase the performance and autonomy of SST capabilities at Union level, to provide space weather services and to map and network Member States NEO capacities;
 - (d) for GOVSATCOM: to ensure the long-term availability of reliable, secure and cost-effective satellite communications services for GOVSATCOM users;
 - (e) to support an autonomous, secure and cost-efficient capability to access space, taking into account the essential security interests of the Union;
 - (f) to foster the development of a strong Union space economy including by supporting the space ecosystem and by reinforcing competitiveness, innovation, entrepreneurship, skills and capacity building in all Member States and Union regions, with particular regard to small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups or legal and natural persons from the Union active or wishing to become active in that sector.

Article 5

Access to space

1. The Programme shall support the procurement and aggregation of launching services for the needs of the Programme; and, at their request, the aggregation for Member States and international organisations.

2. In synergies with other Union programmes and funding schemes, and without prejudice to the European Space Agency's activities in the area of access to space, the Programme may support:

- (a) adaptations, including technology development, to space launch systems which are necessary for launching satellites, including alternative technologies and innovative systems on access to space, for the implementation of the Programme components;
- (b) adaptations to the space ground infrastructure, including new developments, which are necessary for the implementation of the Programme.

Article 6

Actions in support of an innovative and competitive Union space sector

1. The Programme shall promote capacity building across the Union and thus support:

- (a) innovation activities for making best use of space technologies, infrastructure or services and measures to facilitate the uptake of innovative solutions resulting from research and innovation activities and support the development of the downstream sector, in particular through synergies with other Union Programmes and financial instruments, including Invest EU.
- (b) activities aiming to foster public demand and public sector innovation, to realise the full potential of public services for citizens and businesses;
- (c) entrepreneurship, including from early stage to scaling-up, in accordance with Article 21, by relying on other access to finance provisions as referred to in Article 18 and Chapter I of Title III, and by using a first contract approach ;
- (d) the emergence of a business friendly space ecosystem through cooperation between undertakings in the form of a network of space hubs bringing together, at regional and national levels, actors from the space, digital and other sectors, as well as users; that network of hubs shall aim to provide support, facilities and services to citizens and companies to foster entrepreneurship and skills and to enhance synergies in the downstream sector and to foster cooperation with the digital innovation hubs established under the Digital Europe Programme;

- (e) provision of education and training activities, including for professionals, entrepreneurs, graduates and students, notably through synergies with national and regional initiatives, for the development of advanced skills;
 - (f) access to processing and testing facilities for private and public sector professionals, students and entrepreneurs;
 - (g) certification and standardisation activities.
 - (h) reinforcement of the European supply chains across the Union through wide participation of enterprises, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups, in all components of the programme, notably through the provisions of Article 14, and measures to underpin their competitiveness at global level.
2. When implementing activities referred to in paragraph 1, the need to develop capacity in Member States with an emerging space industry shall be supported, in order to provide equal opportunity to all Member States to participate in the space programme.

Article 7

Third countries and international organisations associated to the Programme

1. The Programme's components Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus and sub-components, SWE and NEO, with the exception of SST, shall be open to the participation of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members, which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA), in accordance with the conditions laid down in the EEA Agreement.

For Copernicus, and sub-components SWE and NEO, with the exception of SST, the following countries may participate under the following conditions:

- (a) acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for their participation in Union programmes established in the respective framework agreements and Association Council decisions, or similar agreements, and in accordance with the specific conditions laid down in agreements between the Union and them;

(b) countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective framework agreements and association council decisions, or similar agreements, and in accordance with the specific conditions laid down in agreements between the Union and those countries.

2. In accordance with the conditions laid down in a specific agreement pursuant to Article 218 TFEU covering the participation of the third country or of the international organisation to any Union programme, Galileo and EGNOS shall be open to the participation of countries referred to in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 1, GOVSATCOM shall be open to the participation of European Free Trade Association members, which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA), as well as to countries referred to in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 1, and Galileo, EGNOS, Copernicus, GOVSATCOM, SWE and NEO, with the exception of SST, shall be open to the participation of third countries other than those third countries already covered by paragraph 1 or international organisations. This specific agreement shall:

- (a) ensures a fair balance as regards the contributions and benefits of the third country or international organisation participating in the Union programmes;
- (b) lays down the conditions of participation in the programmes, including the calculation of financial contributions to individual programmes and their administrative costs. Those contributions shall constitute assigned revenues in accordance with Article 21(5) of the Financial Regulation;
- (c) does not confer to the third country or international organisation a decisional power on the programme;
- (d) guarantees the rights of the Union to ensure sound financial management and to protect its financial interests.

3. The participation to the Programme's components or sub-components shall only be open to the third countries and international organisations in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 provided that the essential security interests of the Union and its Member States are preserved including as regards the protection of classified information under Article 42.

Article 8

Access to services by third countries or international organisations (SST service, GOVSATCOM service and Galileo Public Regulated Service)

1. Third countries or international organisations may have access to GOVSATCOM services only where, in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 218 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, they enter into an agreement laying down the terms and conditions for access to GOVSATCOM services, and they comply with the provisions of Article 42.
 - 1a. Third countries and international organisations not having their headquarter in the Union may have access to SST services referred to in point (d) of Article 54(1) only where, in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 218 TFEU, they enter into an agreement laying down the terms and conditions for access to such services, and they comply with the provisions of Article 42.
 - 1b. No agreement under Article 218 TFEU shall be required for SST services which are publicly available, as referred to in points (a), (b) and (c) of Article 54(1). Access to those services shall be subject to a request from the potential users.
2. The access of third countries or international organisations to the Public Regulated Service provided by Galileo shall be governed by Article 3(5) of Decision No 1104/2011/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council²⁰.

Article 9

Ownership and use of assets

1. The Union shall be the owner of all tangible and intangible assets created or developed under the Programme's components. To that aim, the Commission shall take the necessary steps to ensure that relevant contracts, agreements and other arrangements relating to those activities which may result in the creation or development of such assets contain provisions ensuring such an ownership regime regarding those assets.

²⁰ OJ L 287, 4.11.2011, p. 1–8.

2. Paragraph 1 shall not apply to the tangible and intangible assets created or developed under the Programme's components, where the activities which may result in the creation or development of such assets:

- (a) are carried out pursuant to grants or prizes fully financed by the Union;
- (b) are not fully financed by the Union, or
- (c) relate to the development, manufacture or use of PRS receivers incorporating EUCI, or components of such receivers.

3. The Commission shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the contracts, agreements or other arrangements relating to the activities referred to in the second paragraph contain provisions setting out the appropriate ownership regime for those assets and, as regards point (c) that the Union can use the PRS receivers in accordance with Decision 1104/2011/EU.

4. The Commission shall seek to conclude contracts or other arrangements with third parties with regard to:

- (a) pre-existing ownership rights in respect of tangible and intangible assets created or developed under the Programme's components;
- (b) the acquisition of the ownership or license rights in respect of other tangible or intangible assets necessary for the implementation of the Programme.

5. The Commission shall ensure, by means of an appropriate framework, the optimal use of the tangible and intangible assets referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 owned by the Union.

6. In particular, where those assets consist of intellectual property rights, the Commission shall manage those rights as effectively as possible, taking account of the need to protect and give value to them, of the legitimate interests of all stakeholders concerned and of the need for harmonious development of markets and new technologies and for the continuity of the services provided by the Programme's components. To that end, it shall ensure in particular that the relevant contracts, agreements and other arrangements include the possibility of transferring those rights to third parties or granting third-party licences for those rights, including to the creator of that intellectual property right and that the Agency can freely enjoy those rights where necessary for carrying out its tasks under this Regulation. The financial framework partnership agreement referred to in Article 29(3a) or the contribution agreements referred to in Article 32(1) shall contain relevant provisions to allow the use of those rights by the European Space Agency and the other entrusted entities where necessary to perform their tasks under this Regulation and the conditions for that use.

Article 10

Warranty

Without prejudice to the obligations imposed by legally binding provisions, the services, data and information provided by the Programme's components shall be provided without any express or implied warranty as regards their quality, accuracy, availability, reliability, speed and suitability for any purpose. The Commission shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the users of those services, data and information are duly informed.

TITLE II

BUDGETARY CONTRIBUTION AND MECHANISMS

Article 11

Budget

1. The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021 – 2027, including for the associated risks, shall be

EUR 14,880 billion in current prices.

The distribution of the amount referred to in the first subparagraph shall be broken down in the following categories of expenditure:

- (a) for Galileo and EGNOS: EUR 9,017 billion;
- (b) for Copernicus: EUR 5,421 billion;
- (c) for SSA and GOVSATCOM: EUR 0,442 billion.

1a. The Commission may reallocate funds between the categories of expenditure referred to in paragraph 1, up to a ceiling of 7.5 % of the category of expenditure that receives the funds or the category that provides the funds. The Commission, by means of implementing acts, acting in accordance with the examination procedure referred in Article 107(3) may re-allocate funds between the categories of expenditure referred to in paragraph 1 when this allocation exceeds a cumulative amount greater than 7.5 % of the amount allocated to the category of expenditure that receives the funds or the category that provides the funds.

2. Additional measures as foreseen by Article 3, namely activities referred to in Article 5 and in Article 6, shall be financed under the Programme's components.

3. The Union budgetary appropriations assigned to the Programme shall cover all the activities required to fulfil the objectives referred to in Article 4. Such expenditure may cover:

- (a) studies and meetings of experts, in particular compliance with its cost and time constraints;
- (b) information and communication activities, including corporate communication on the policy priorities of the Union where they are directly linked to the objectives of this Regulation, with a particular view to creating synergies with other Union policies;
- (c) the information technology networks whose function it is to process or exchange information, and the administrative management measures, including in the field of security, implemented by the Commission;
- (d) technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Programme, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities including corporate information technology systems.

4. Actions that receive cumulative funding from different Union programmes shall be audited only once, covering all involved programmes and their respective applicable rules.
5. The budget commitments relating to the Programme and which cover activities extending over more than one financial year may be broken down over several years into annual instalments.
6. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be transferred to the Programme. The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with point (a) of Article 62(1) of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with point (c) of that Article. Those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned. This transfer of resources is subject to the conditions set out in Article 21 of the Regulation (EU) XX [Common Provisions Regulation].

Article 12

Assigned revenue

1. The revenue generated by the components of the Programme shall be paid into the Union budget and used to finance the component which generated the revenue.
2. The Member States may endow a component of the Programme with an additional financial contribution on condition that such additional elements do not create any financial or technical burden or any delay for the component concerned. The Commission shall decide, in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107 (3), whether those conditions have been met.
3. The additional funding referred to in this Article shall be treated as external assigned revenue in accordance with [Article 21(2)] of the Financial Regulation.

Article 13

Implementation and forms of EU funding

1. The Programme shall be implemented in direct management in accordance with the Financial Regulation or in indirect management with bodies referred to in [Article 62(1)(c)] of the Financial Regulation.

2. The Programme may provide funding in any of the forms laid down in the Financial Regulation, in particular grants, prizes and procurement. It may also provide financing in the form of financial instruments within blending operations.

3. Where the Copernicus budget is implemented by indirect management the procurement rules of the entities entrusted with budget implementation tasks may apply to the extent allowable under Articles 62 and 154 of the Financial Regulation. Specific adjustments necessary to those rules shall be defined in the relevant contribution agreements.

TITLE III
FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I

Procurement

Article 14

Principles of procurement

1. The contracting authority shall act in accordance with the following principles in procurement procedures for the purpose of the Programme:

- (a) to promote in all Member States throughout the Union and, throughout the supply chain, the widest and most open participation possible of all economic operators, in particular start-ups, new entrants and small and medium sized enterprises, including the requirement of sub-contracting by the tenderers;
- (b) to ensure effective competition and, where possible, avoid reliance on a single provider, in particular for critical equipment and services, taking into account the objectives of technological independence and continuity of services;
- (c) by derogation from Article 167 of the Financial Regulation, to use, wherever appropriate, multiple supply sources in order to ensure better overall control of all the components of the Programme, their cost and schedule;
- (cc) to follow the principles of open access and fair competition throughout the industrial supply chain, tendering on the basis of the provision of transparent and timely information, clear communication of the applicable procurement rules and procedures, selection and award criteria and any other relevant information allowing a level-playing field for all potential bidders, including SMEs and start-ups;
- (d) to reinforce the autonomy of the Union, in particular in technological terms;
- (e) to comply with the security requirements of the components of the Programme and to contribute to the protection of the essential security interests of the Union and its Member States;

- (ee) to promote service continuity and reliability;
- (f) to satisfy appropriate social and environmental criteria.

2. The procurement Board, within the Commission, shall scrutinise the procurement process concerning all components of the programme and monitor the contractual implementation of the EU budget delegated to entrusted entities. Representative of the entrusted entities shall be invited as appropriate.

Article 15

Conditional stage-payment contracts

1. With regard to operational and infrastructure-specific activities, the contracting authority may award a contract in the form of a conditional stage-payment contract in accordance with this article.
2. A conditional stage-payment contract shall include a fixed stage which results in a firm commitment to provide the works, supplies or services contracted for that stage, and one or more stages which are conditional in terms of both budget and execution. The tender documents refer to the specific features of conditional stage-payment contracts. In particular, they shall specify the subject-matter of the contract, the price or the arrangements for determining the price and the arrangements for the provision of works, supplies and services at each stage.
3. The fixed stage obligations shall be part of a consistent whole; the same is true for the obligations under each conditional stage, taking into account the obligations under the previous stages.
4. Performance of each conditional stage shall be subject to a decision by the contracting authority, notified to the contractor in accordance with the contract.

Article 16

Cost-reimbursement contracts

1. The contracting authority may opt for a full or partial cost-reimbursement based contract under the conditions laid down in paragraph 3.

The price to be paid shall consist in the reimbursement of all direct costs actually incurred by the contractor in performing the contract, such as expenditure on labour, materials, consumables, and use of the equipment and infrastructures necessary to perform the contract, indirect costs, a fixed profit, and an appropriate incentive fee based on achieving objectives in respect of performance and delivery schedules.

2. Cost reimbursement contracts shall stipulate a maximum ceiling price.
3. The contracting authority may opt for a full or partial cost-reimbursement contract in cases where it is difficult or unsuitable to provide an accurate fixed price due to the uncertainties inherent in performance of the contract because:
 - (a) the contract has very complex features or features which require the use of a new technology and, therefore, includes a significant number of technical risks; or
 - (b) the activities subject to the contract must, for operational reasons, start immediately even though it is not yet possible to determine a firm fixed price in full due to significant risks or because the performance of the contract depends in part on the performance of other contracts.
4. The ceiling price for a full or partial cost-reimbursement contract shall be the maximum price payable. The contract price may be amended in accordance with [Article 172] of the Financial Regulation.

Article 17

Subcontracting

1. To encourage new entrants, small and medium enterprises and start-ups and their cross border participation, and to offer the widest possible geographic coverage while protecting the Union's autonomy, the contracting authority shall request that the tenderer subcontract part of the contract by competitive tendering at the appropriate levels of subcontracting to companies other than those which belong to the tenderer's group.
3. Any derogation from a request in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be justified by the tenderer.

4. For contracts above ten million Euro, the contracting authority shall aim at ensuring that at least 30% of the value of the contract is subcontracted by competitive tendering at various levels to companies outside the group of the prime contractor, notably in order to enable the cross-border participation of SMEs. The Commission shall inform the Committee referred to in Article 107 (1) on the fulfilment of this objective for contracts signed after the entry into force of this Regulation.

CHAPTER II

Grants, prizes and blending operations

Article 18

Grants and prizes

1. The Union may cover up to 100% of the eligible costs, without prejudice to the co-financing principle.
2. By way of derogation from [Article 181(6)] of the Financial Regulation when applying a flat rates, the authorising officer responsible may authorise or impose funding of the beneficiary's indirect costs up to a maximum of 25 % of total eligible direct costs for the action.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, indirect costs may be declared in the form of a lump sum or unit costs when provided for in the work programme referred to in Article 100.
4. By way of derogation from [Article 204] of the Financial Regulation, the maximum amount of financial support that can be paid to a third party shall not exceed EUR 200 000.

Article 19

Joint calls for grants

The Commission or an entrusted entity in the context of the Programme may issue a joint call for proposals with entities, bodies or persons referred to in Article 62(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation.

In the case of a joint call, the rules referred to in Title VIII of the Financial Regulation shall apply. The evaluation procedures shall involve a balanced group of experts appointed by each party. The evaluation committees shall comply with Article 150 of the Financial Regulation.

The grant agreement shall specify the arrangement applicable to intellectual property rights.

Article 20

Grants for pre-commercial procurement and procurement of innovative solutions

1. Actions may involve or have as their primary aim pre-commercial procurement or public procurement of innovative solutions that shall be carried out by beneficiaries which are contracting authorities or contracting entities as defined in Directives 2014/24/EU, 2014/25/EU and 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council.
2. The procurement procedures:
 - (a) shall comply with the principles of transparency, non-discrimination, equal treatment, sound financial management, proportionality and competition rules;
 - (b) for pre-commercial procurement, may provide for specific conditions such as the place of performance of the procured activities being limited to the territory of the Member States and of associated countries;
 - (c) may authorise the award of multiple contracts within the same procedure (multiple sourcing); and
 - (d) shall provide for the award of the contracts to the tender(s) offering best value for money while ensuring absence of conflict of interest.
3. The contractor generating results in pre-commercial procurement shall own at least the attached intellectual property rights. The contracting authorities shall enjoy at least royalty-free access rights to the results for their own use and the right to grant, or require the participating contractors to grant, non-exclusive licences to third parties to exploit the results for the contracting authority under fair and reasonable conditions without any right to sub-license. If a contractor fails to commercially exploit the results within a given period after the pre-commercial procurement as identified in the contract, the contracting authorities may require it to transfer any ownership of the results to the contracting authorities.

Article 21

Blending operations

Blending operations decided under this Programme shall be implemented in accordance with the [InvestEU regulation] and Title X of the Financial Regulation.

CHAPTER IV

Other financial provisions

Article 22

Cumulative and alternative funding

1. An action that has received a contribution from another Union programme may also receive a contribution under the Programme, provided that the contributions do not cover the same costs. The rules of each contributing Union programme shall apply to its respective contribution to the action. The cumulative funding shall not exceed the total eligible costs of the action and the support from the different Union programmes may be calculated on a pro-rata basis in accordance with the documents setting out the conditions for support.

2. Actions awarded a Seal of Excellence certification under this Programme by complying with the following cumulative, comparative conditions:

- (a) they have been assessed in a call for proposals under the Programme;
- (b) they comply with the minimum quality requirements of that call for proposals;
- (c) they may not be financed under that call for proposals due to budgetary constraints;

may receive support from the European Regional Development Fund **or** the European Social Fund+, in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article [67] of Regulation (EU) XX [Common Provisions Regulation].

Article 23

[...]

Article 24

Joint procurement

1. In addition to the provisions of [Article 165] of the Financial Regulation, the Commission and/or the Agency may carry out joint procurement procedures with the European Space Agency or other international organisations involved in implementing the components of the Programme.
2. The procurement rules applicable in [Article 165] of the Financial Regulation shall apply by analogy provided that in any case the procedural provisions applicable to the Union institutions are applied.

Article 25

Eligibility and participation conditions for the preservation of the security, integrity and resilience of operational systems of the European Union

The Commission shall lay down the requisite eligibility and participation conditions applicable to the procurement, grants or prizes covered by this Title if it deems that this is necessary and appropriate to preserve the security, integrity and resilience of the operational Union systems, taking into account the objective to promote the Union strategic autonomy, in particular in terms of technology across key technologies and value chains while preserving an open economy. The Commission shall first inform the committee referred to in point (e) of Article 107(1) and shall take utmost account of the Member States' views on the scope of application and justification of those eligibility and participation conditions.

2. The conditions referred to in paragraph 1 shall be as defined herein. They specify that eligible legal entities shall:
 - (a) be established in a Member State and their executive management structures be established therein,

- (b) commit to carry out all relevant activities in one or more Member States, and
- (c) not be subject to control by a third country or by a third country entity.

For the purpose of this Article, control means the ability to exercise a decisive influence on a legal entity directly or indirectly through one or more intermediate legal entity.

For the purpose of this Article, executive management structure means body of a legal entity appointed in accordance with national law, and, where applicable, reporting to the chief executive officer, or any other person having comparable decisional power, which is empowered to establish the legal entity's strategy, objectives and overall direction, and which oversees and monitors management decision-making.

3. The Commission may waive the conditions under points (a) or (b) of paragraph 2 for a particular legal entity upon evaluation based on the following cumulative criteria:

- (a) For specific technologies, goods or services needed for the activities referred to in paragraph 1 no substitutes are readily available in the Member States,
- (b) the legal entity is established in an EEA country or an EFTA country which has concluded an international agreement with the Union as referred to in Article 7 and their executive management structures are established therein and the activities linked to the procurement, grant or prize are carried out in this third country or in one or more such third country; and
- (c) sufficient measures are implemented to ensure the protection of EU classified information under Article 42 as well as ensure the integrity, security and resilience of the Programme components, their operation and their services.

By derogation to point (b), a legal entity established in another third country may only be authorised if no substitutes are readily available in the EEA or EFTA countries and the conditions of point (a) and (c) are met.

3a. The Commission may waive the condition under point (c) of paragraph 2 if the legal entity established in a Member State provides the following guarantees:

(a) control over the legal entity is not exercised in a manner that restrains or restricts its ability to carry out the procurement, grant or prize and to deliver results, in particular through reporting duties;

(b) the controlling third country or third country entity shall commit to refrain from exercising any directive rights over or calling in any reporting duties from the legal entity in relation to the procurement, grant or prize; and

(c) the legal entity complies with Article 34(5).

3b. The Member State's competent authorities where the legal entity is established shall assess whether the legal entity complies with the guarantees referred to in point (c) of paragraphs 3 and in paragraph 3a of this Article. The Commission shall comply with this assessment.

4. The Commission shall provide the following to the Committee referred to in point (e) of Article 107(1):

(a) the scope of application of eligibility and participation conditions referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article;

(b) details and justifications on the waivers granted in accordance with this Article; and

(c) the evaluation that was the basis for a waiver, subject to paragraphs 3 and 3a of this Article, without divulging commercially sensitive information.

5. Those conditions set out in paragraphs 2, 3 and 3a of this Article shall be included in the documents relating to the procurement, grant or prize, as applicable. In the case of procurement, the conditions shall apply to the full life cycle of the resulting contract.

6. This article is without prejudice to Decision 1104/2011/EU and Commission Delegated Decision C(2015) 6123, Regulation (EU) 2019/452, Council Decision 2013/488/EU and Commission Decision 2015/444 as well as without prejudice to the security vetting carried out by Member States with regard to legal entities involved in activities requiring access to EU classified information subject to the applicable national laws and regulations. If contracts resulting from the application of Article 25 are classified, eligibility and participation conditions to be laid down by the Commission must be without prejudice to the competence of national security authorities. This Article must not interfere with, amend or contradict any existing Facility Security Clearance and Personnel Security Clearance process within a Member State.

Article 26

Protection of the financial interests of the Union

Where a third country participates in the Programme by a decision under an international agreement or by virtue of any other legal instrument, the third country shall grant the necessary rights and access required for the authorising officer responsible, OLAF and the European Court of Auditors to comprehensively exert their respective competences. In the case of OLAF, such rights shall include the right to carry out investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, provided for in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office.

TITLE IV

GOVERNANCE OF THE PROGRAMME

Article 27

Principles of governance

The governance of the Programme shall be based on the following principles:

(a) clear distribution of tasks and responsibilities between the entities involved in the implementation of each component and measure of the Programme, in particular between the Member States, the Commission, the Agency and the European Space Agency and the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites, building on their respective competence and avoiding any overlap in tasks and responsibilities;

- (aa) pertinence of the governance structure to the specific needs of each component and measure of the Programme as appropriate;
- (b) strong control of the Programme, including strict adherence to cost, schedule and performance by all the entities, within their respective role and tasks in accordance with this Regulation;
- (c) transparent and cost-efficient management;
- (cc) service continuity and necessary infrastructure continuity, including protection from relevant threats;
- (d) systematic and structured consideration of the needs of users of the data, information and services provided by the Programme's components, as well as of related scientific and technological evolutions;
- (e) constant efforts to control and reduce risks.

Article 28

Role of the Member States

1. The Member States may participate in the Programme. Member States who participate in the Programme shall contribute with their technical competence, know-how and assistance, in particular in the field of safety and security, and/or, where appropriate and possible, by making available to the Union the data, information, services and infrastructure in their possession or located on their territory, including by ensuring an efficient and obstacle free access and use of in-situ data and cooperating with the Commission to improve the availability of in-situ data required by the Programme, taking into account applicable licences and obligations.
2. The Commission may entrust, by means of contribution agreements, specific tasks to Member State organisations, where such organisations have been designated by the Member State concerned. The Commission, by means of implementing act, acting in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 107(2), shall adopt the contribution decisions regarding the contribution agreements.

- 2a. In certain duly justified circumstances, for the tasks referred to in Article 30 the Agency may entrust, by means of contribution agreements, specific tasks to Member State organisations, where such organisations have been designated by the Member State concerned.
- 2aa. The Member States shall take all the necessary measures to ensure the smooth functioning of the Programme, including by helping to protect, at the adequate level, the frequencies required for this programme.
- 2b. The Member States and the Commission may cooperate to widen the uptake of data, information and services provided by the programme.
- 2c. Whenever possible, the contribution of Member States to the User Forum referred to in Article 107 shall be based on a systematic and coordinated consultation of end user communities at national level, in particular regarding Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus.
3. The Member States and Commission shall cooperate in order to develop the in-situ component and ground calibration services necessary for the uptake of space systems and to facilitate the use of in-situ and reference data sets to their full potential, building on existing capacities.
4. In the field of security, the Member States shall perform the tasks referred to in Article 34(4).

Article 29

Role of the Commission

1. The Commission shall have overall responsibility for the implementation of the Programme, including in the field of security, without prejudice to Member States' prerogatives in the area of national security. It shall, in accordance with this Regulation, determine the priorities and long-term evolution of the Programme, in line with the user requirements, and shall supervise its implementation, without prejudice to other policies of the Union.
2. The Commission shall manage any component or sub-component of the Programme not entrusted to another entity, in particular GOVSATCOM, NEO, space weather and the activities referred to in Art. 54(d).

3. The Commission shall ensure a clear division of tasks and responsibilities between the various entities involved in the Programme and coordinate the activities of those entities. The Commission shall also ensure that all the entrusted entities involved in the implementation of the programme protect the interest of the Union, guarantee the sound management of the Union's funds and comply with the Financial Regulation and this Regulation.

3a. The Commission, shall conclude with the Agency and, taking into account the 2004 Framework agreement, the European Space Agency, a Financial Framework Partnership Agreement as provided for in [Article 130] of the Financial Regulation and referred to in Article 31a.

4. When necessary for the smooth functioning of the Programme and the smooth provision of the services provided by the Programme's components, the Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, determine the technical and operational requirements needed for the implementation of and evolution of those components and of the services they provide after having consulted users, including through the User Forum referred to in Article 107, and other stakeholders. When determining those technical and operational requirements, the Commission shall avoid reducing the general security level and meet a backward compatibility imperative.

Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

5. The Commission shall ensure that the uptake and use of the data and services provided by the Programme's components in the public and private sectors is promoted and maximised, without prejudice to the tasks of the Agency or of other entrusted entities, including by supporting appropriate development of those services and user-friendly interfaces, and by fostering a stable long-term environment. It shall develop appropriate synergies between the applications of the various components of the Programme. It shall ensure complementarity, consistency, synergies and links between the Programme and other Union actions and programmes.

6. Where appropriate, the Commission shall ensure the coherence of activities performed in the context of the Programme with activities carried out in the field of space at Union, national or international level. It shall encourage cooperation between the Member States and, when pertinent to the Programme, facilitate convergence of their technological capacities and developments in the space domain. To this end, the Commission shall, where appropriate and in their field of competence, cooperate with the Agency and the European Space Agency.

7. The Commission shall inform the Committee referred to in article 107 of the interim and final results of the evaluation of any procurement tenders and of any contracts with public and private entities, including subcontracts.

Article 30

Role of the Agency

1. The Agency shall have the following own tasks:

(a) ensure, through its Security Accreditation Board, the security accreditation of all the components of the Programme in accordance with Chapter II of Title V;

(b) perform other tasks referred to in Article 34(2) and (3);

(c) undertake communication, market development and promotion activities of the services offered by Galileo and EGNOS, in particular activities relating to the market uptake and users' needs' coordination;

(ca) undertake communication, promotion and market development activities of data, information and services offered by Copernicus, without prejudice to the activities performed by other entrusted entities and the Commission;

(d) provide expertise to the Commission, including for the preparation of the downstream space-related research priorities.

2. The Commission shall entrust the following tasks to the Agency:

(a) managing the exploitation of EGNOS and Galileo, covering the actions referred to in Article 43;

- (b) overarching coordination of user-related aspects of GOVSATCOM in close collaboration with Member States, other entities, relevant Union agencies and EEAS for crisis management missions and operations;
- (c) implementing activities relating to the development of downstream applications based on the components of the Programme, including fundamental elements and integrated applications based on the data and services provided by Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus, including where funding have been made available for such activities in the context of the Horizon Europe Programme established under Regulation xx or where necessary to fulfill the objectives referred to in Article 4(1)(b);
- (d) undertake activities related to user uptake of data, information and services, offered by the programme's components other than Galileo and EGNOS, without prejudice to Copernicus activities and Services entrusted to other entities;
- (e) specific actions referred to in Article 6.

3. The Commission may, on the basis of the assessments referred to in Article 102(6), entrust other tasks, to the Agency, provided that they do not duplicate activities performed by another entrusted entities in the context of the Programme and provided that they aim to improve the efficiency of the implementation of the Programme's activities.

4. [...]

3a. Whenever activities are entrusted to the Agency, appropriate financial, human and administrative resources shall be ensured for their implementation.

5. By way of derogation from Art 62(1) of the Financial Regulation and subject to the Commission's assessment of the protection of the Union's interests, the Agency may entrust, by means of contribution agreements, specific activities to other entities, in areas of their respective competence, under the conditions of indirect management applying to the Commission.

Article 31

Role of the European Space Agency

1. Provided that the interest of the Union is protected, the European Space Agency shall be entrusted with the following tasks:

(a) as regards Copernicus: coordination of the space component and the implementation for the Copernicus space component and its evolution, design, development, and construction of the Copernicus space infrastructure, including the operations of that infrastructure and related procurement, except when this is done by other entities, and, where appropriate, access to third party data.

(b) as regards Galileo and EGNOS: systems evolution, design and development, of parts of the ground segment and of satellites, including testing and validation;

(c) as regards all the components of the Programme with upstream research and development activities in its fields of expertise.

1a. On the basis of an assessment by the Commission, the European Space Agency may be entrusted with other tasks based of the needs of the programme, provided that they do not duplicate activities performed by another entrusted entity in the context of the Programme and provided that they aim to improve the efficiency of the implementation of the Programme's activities.

4. Without prejudice to the financial framework partnership agreement referred to in Article 31a, the Commission or the Agency may request the European Space Agency to provide technical expertise and the information necessary to perform the tasks which are assigned to them by this Regulation under conditions to be mutually agreed.

Article 31a

The financial framework partnership agreement

1. The financial framework partnership agreement referred to in Article 29(3a) shall:

(a) clearly define the roles, responsibilities and obligations of the Commission, the Agency and the European Space Agency with regard to each component of the Programme and necessary coordination and control mechanisms;

- (b) require that the European Space Agency applies the Union security rules defined in the security agreements entered into between the Union, and its Institutions and Agencies, with ESA, in particular with regard to the processing of classified information;
- (c) stipulate the conditions of the management of funds entrusted to the European Space Agency, particularly with regard to public procurement, including the application of Union procurement rules when procuring in the name and on behalf of the Union or the application of the rules of the entrusted entity in accordance with Article 154 of the Financial Regulation, management procedures, the expected results measured by performance indicators, applicable measures in the event of deficient or fraudulent implementation of the contracts in terms of costs, schedule and results, as well as the communication strategy and the rules regarding ownership of all tangible and intangible assets; these conditions shall be in conformity with Titles III and V of this Regulation and with the Financial Regulation;
- (d) require that, whenever a Tender Evaluation Board is established by the Agency or the European Space Agency for a procurement action performed under the FFPA, experts from the Commission and, where relevant, the other entrusted entity shall participate as member in the Tender Evaluation Board meetings. Such participation shall be without prejudice to the technical independence of the Tender Evaluation Board;
- (e) establish the monitoring and control measures, which shall include, in particular, a cost forecast system, the systematic provision of information to the Commission or, where appropriate, to the Agency, on costs and schedule, and in the event of a discrepancy between the planned budgets, performance and schedule, corrective action ensuring performance of the tasks within the allocated budgets;
- (f) establish the principles for the remuneration of the European Space Agency for each component of the programme, which shall be commensurate with the conditions under which the actions are implemented, taking due account of situations of crisis and fragility, and, where appropriate, be performance based; the remuneration shall only cover general overheads which are associated with the activities entrusted to the European Space Agency by the Union;

(g) provide that the European Space Agency takes appropriate measures to ensure the protection of the interests of the Union and to comply with the decisions taken by the Commission for each component in application of this Regulation;

2. The Commission shall decide on the financial framework partnership agreement by means of implementing act, acting in accordance with the examination procedure. The European Parliament and the Council shall be fully informed well in advance of the FFPA to be concluded and on its implementation.

3. Under the Financial Framework Partnership Agreement referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the tasks referred to in Article 30(2) and (3) shall be entrusted to the Agency and the tasks referred to in Article 31(1) shall be entrusted to ESA by means of contribution agreements. The Commission shall adopt the contribution decision regarding the contribution agreements by means of implementing acts. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 107(2). The European Parliament and the Council shall be fully informed well in advance of the contribution agreements to be concluded and on their implementation.

Article 32

Role of EUMETSAT and other entities

1. The Commission may entrust, in full or in part, by means of contribution agreements, the implementation of the following tasks to entities other than those referred to in Article 30 and 31, including :

(a) the upgrading, operations preparation and operation of the Copernicus space infrastructure or parts thereof and, where appropriate, managing access to contributing mission data, which may be entrusted to EUMETSAT;

(b) the implementation of the Copernicus Services or parts thereof to relevant agencies, bodies or organisations, such as the European Environment Agency (EEA), the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (FRONTEX), the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), the European Union Satellite Centre (SATCEN) and the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF); the tasks entrusted to those agencies, bodies or organisations shall be performed in sites located in the Union. An agency, body or organisation, already in the process of relocating its entrusted tasks to the Union, is allowed to continue performing these tasks in a location outside the Union for a limited period, ending at the latest by 31 December 2023.

2. The criteria for the selection of such entrusted entities shall, in particular, reflect their ability to ensure the continuity and, where appropriate, the security of the operations with no disruption of Programme activities.

2a. Whenever possible, the conditions of the contribution agreements referred to in the first paragraph shall be coherent with the conditions of the FFPA referred to in Article 31a(1).

3. The Programme Committee shall be consulted on the contribution decision regarding the contribution agreement referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 107(2). The Programme Committee shall be informed in advance of the contribution agreements to be concluded by the Union, represented by the Commission, and the Entities referred to in paragraph 1.

TITLE V

SECURITY OF THE PROGRAMME

CHAPTER I

Security of the Programme

Article 33

Principles of security

1. The security of the Programme shall be based on the following principles:

(a) to take account of the experience of the Member States in the field of security and draw inspiration from their best practices;

(b) to use the security rules of the Council and of the Commission, which provide, among others, for a separation between operational functions and those associated with accreditation.

2. This Regulation shall be without prejudice to the sole responsibility of the Member States for national security, as provided for in Article 4(2) TEU, and to the right of the Member States to protect their essential security interests in accordance with Article 346 TFEU.

Article 34

Governance of security

1. The Commission, in its field of competence, with the support of the Agency, shall ensure a high degree of security with regard to, in particular:

- (a) the protection of infrastructure, both ground and space, and of the provision of services, particularly against physical or cyber-attacks, including interference with data streams;
- (b) the control and management of technology transfers;
- (c) the development and preservation within the Union of the competence and know-how acquired;
- (d) the protection of sensitive non-classified and classified information.

To that end, the Commission shall ensure that a risk and threat analysis is performed for each Programme's component. Based on that risk and threat analysis, it shall determine by the end of 2023, by means of implementing acts, for each component of the Programme, the general security requirements. In doing so, the Commission shall take account of the impact of those requirements on the smooth functioning of that component, in particular in terms of cost, risk management and schedule, and shall ensure not to reduce the general level of security or undermine the functioning of the existing equipment based on that component and take into account cybersecurity risks. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

After the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall communicate an indicative list of implementing acts to be submitted to and discussed by the Programme Committee in security configuration. This list shall be accompanied by an indicative timetable for submission.

2. The entity responsible for the management of a component of the Programme shall be responsible for the operational security of that component and shall, to that end, carry out risk and threat analysis and all the necessary activities to ensure and monitor the security of that component, in particular setting of technical specifications and operational procedures, and monitor their compliance with the general security requirements referred to in paragraph 1. Pursuant to Article 30, for Galileo and EGNOS that entity shall be the Agency.

2a. Based on the risk and threat analysis, the Commission shall, where appropriate, identify a structure to monitor security and to follow the instructions developed under the scope of Decision 201x/xxx/CFSP.²¹ The structure shall operate in accordance with the security requirements referred to in paragraph 1. For Galileo, that structure shall be the Galileo Security Monitoring Centre.

3. The Agency shall:

(a) ensure the security accreditation of all the components of the Programme in accordance with Chapter II of this Title and without prejudice to the competences of the Member States;

(b) ensure the operation of the Galileo Security Monitoring Centre in accordance with the requirements referred to in paragraph 2 and the instructions developed under the scope of Decision 2014/496/CFSP;

(c) perform the tasks assigned to it under Decision No 1104/2011/EU;

(d) provide the Commission with its technical expertise and supply any information necessary for the performance of its tasks under this Regulation.

4. The Member States shall:

²¹ This Council Decision will result from the High Representative proposal extending the scope of Council Decision 2014/496/CFSP of 22 July 2014 currently under negotiation.

(a) take measures which are at least equivalent to those necessary for the protection of European critical infrastructures within the meaning of Council Directive 2008/114/EC of 8 December 2008 on the identification and designation of European critical infrastructures and the assessment of the need to improve their protection²² and to those necessary for the protection of their own national critical infrastructures in order to ensure the protection of the ground infrastructure on the ground which form an integral part of the Programme and which are located on their territory;

(b) perform the security accreditation tasks referred to in Article 41.

5. The entities involved in the Programme shall take all the necessary measures, also in light of the issues identified in the risk analysis, to ensure the security of the Programme.

Article 34a

Security of systems and services deployed

Whenever the security of the Union or its Member States may be affected by the operation of the systems, the procedures set out in Council Decision XXXX/XX/CFSP shall apply.

CHAPTER II

Security accreditation

Article 35

Security Accreditation Authority

The Security Accreditation Board established within the Agency shall be the security accreditation authority for all the components of the Programme.

Article 36

General principles of security accreditation

Security accreditation activities for all the components of the Programme shall be conducted in accordance with the following principles:

(a) security accreditation activities and decisions shall be undertaken in a context of collective responsibility for the security of the Union and of the Member States;

²² OJ L 345, 23.12.2008, p. 75–82.

- (b) efforts shall be made for decisions within the Security Accreditation Board to be reached by consensus;
- (c) security accreditation activities shall be carried out using a risk assessment and management approach, considering risks to the security of the component as well as the impact on cost or schedule of any measure to mitigate the risks, taking into account the objective not to lower the general level of security of this component;
- (d) security accreditation decisions of the Security Accreditation Board shall be prepared and taken by professionals who are duly qualified in the field of accrediting complex systems, have an appropriate level of security clearance and act objectively;
- (e) efforts shall be made to consult all relevant parties with an interest in security issues for this component;
- (f) security accreditation activities shall be carried out by all relevant stakeholders of the component according to a security accreditation strategy, without prejudice to the role of the Commission;
- (g) security accreditation decisions of the Security Accreditation Board shall, following the process defined in the relevant security accreditation strategy defined by that Board, be based on local security accreditation decisions taken by the respective national security accreditation authorities of the Member States;
- (h) a permanent, transparent and fully understandable monitoring process shall ensure that the security risks for the component are known, that security measures are defined to reduce such risks to an acceptable level in view of the security needs of the Union and of its Member States and for the smooth running of the component and that those measures are applied in accordance with the concept of defence in depth. The effectiveness of such measures shall be continuously evaluated. The process relating to security risk assessment and management shall be conducted as an iterative process jointly by the stakeholders of the component;

- (i) security accreditation decisions shall be taken by the Security Accreditation Board in a strictly independent manner, including with regard to the Commission and the other bodies responsible for the implementation of the component and for the provision of related services, and with regard to the Executive Director and the Administrative Board of the Agency;
- (j) security accreditation activities shall be carried out with due regard for the need for adequate coordination between the Commission and the authorities responsible for implementing security provisions;
- (k) the security accreditation of EGNOS performed by the Security Accreditation Board shall be without prejudice to the accreditation activities performed, for aviation, by the European Aviation Safety Agency.

Article 37

Tasks of the Security Accreditation Board

1. The Security Accreditation Board shall perform its tasks without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Commission or to those entrusted to the Agency's other bodies, in particular for matters relating to security, and without prejudice to the competences of the Member States as regards security accreditation.
2. The Security Accreditation Board shall have the following tasks:
 - (a) defining and approving a security accreditation strategy setting out:
 - i) the scope of the activities necessary to perform and maintain the accreditation of the components of the Programme or of parts of these components and any interconnections between them and other systems or components;
 - ii) a security accreditation process for the components of the Programme or parts of these components, with a degree of detail commensurate with the required level of assurance and clearly stating the accreditation conditions;
 - iii) the role of relevant stakeholders involved in the accreditation process;
 - iv) an accreditation schedule compliant with the phases of the components of the Programme, in particular as regards the deployment of infrastructure, service provision and evolution;

- v) the principles of security accreditation for networks connected to systems set up under the components of the Programme or for parts of these components and for equipment connected to systems established by these components, which shall be performed by the national entities of the Member States competent in security matters;
- (b) taking security accreditation decisions, in particular on the approval of satellite launches, the authorisation to operate the systems set up under the components of the Programme or the elements of these components in their different configurations and for the various services they provide, up to and including the signal in space, and the authorisation to operate the ground stations. As regards the networks and the equipment connected to the PRS service referred to in Article 44 , or to any other secure service stemming from the components of the Programme, the Security Accreditation Board shall take decisions only on the authorisation of bodies to develop or manufacture sensitive PRS technologies, PRS receivers or PRS security modules, or any other technology or equipment which has to be checked under the general security requirements referred to in Article 34(1), taking into account the advice provided by national entities competent in security matters and the overall security risks;
- (c) examining and, except as regards documents which the Commission is to adopt under Article 34(1) of this Regulation and Article 8 of Decision No 1104/2011/EU, approving all documentation relating to security accreditation;
- (d) advising, within its field of competence, the Commission on the production of draft texts for acts referred to in Article 34(1) of this Regulation and Article 8 of Decision No 1104/2011/EU, including for the establishment of security operating procedures (SecOps), and providing a statement with its concluding position;
- (e) examining and approving the security risk assessment drawn up in accordance with the monitoring process referred to in Article 36(h), taking into account compliance with the documents referred to in point (c) of this paragraph and those drawn up in accordance with Article 34(1) of this Regulation, and with Article 8 of Decision No 1104/2011/EU; and cooperating with the Commission to define risk mitigation measures;

- (f) checking the implementation of security measures in relation to the security accreditation of the components of the Programme by undertaking or sponsoring security assessments, inspections, audits or reviews, in accordance with Article 41(b) of this Regulation;
 - (g) endorsing the selection of approved products and measures which protect against electronic eavesdropping (TEMPEST) and of approved cryptographic products used to provide security for the components of the Programme;
 - (h) approving or, where relevant, participating in the joint approval, together with the relevant entities competent in security matters, of the interconnection between the systems established under the components of the Programme or the parts of these components and other systems;
 - (i) agreeing with the relevant Member State the template for access control referred to in Article 41(c);
 - (j) preparing risk reports and informing the Commission, the Administrative Board and the Executive Director of its risk assessment and advising them on residual risk treatment options for a given security accreditation decision;
 - (k) assisting, in close liaison with the Commission, the Council and the High Representative in the implementation of Decision 2014/496/CFSP upon a specific request from the Council and/or the High Representative;
 - (l) carrying out the consultations which are necessary to perform its tasks;
 - (m) adopting and publishing its rules of procedure.
3. Without prejudice to the powers and responsibilities of the Member States, a special subordinate body representing the Member States shall be set up under the supervision of the Security Accreditation Board to perform in particular the following tasks:
- (a) the management of programme flight keys;
 - (b) the verification, monitoring and assessment of the establishment and enforcement of procedures for accounting, secure handling, storage, distribution and disposal of the PRS keys of Galileo.

Article 38

Composition of the Security Accreditation Board

1. The Security Accreditation Board shall be composed of a representative of each Member State, a representative of the Commission and a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy ('High Representative'). The term of office of the members of the Security Accreditation Board shall be four years and shall be renewable.
2. Participation in SAB meetings shall be based on the need-to-know-principle. Where appropriate, representatives of the European Space Agency and representatives of the Agency not involved in security accreditation may be invited to attend the meetings of the Security Accreditation Board as observers. On an exceptional basis, representatives of Union Agencies, third countries or international organisations may also be invited to attend meetings as observers for matters directly relating to those third countries or international organisations, especially matters concerning the infrastructure belonging to them or established on their territory. Arrangements for such participation of representatives of third countries or international organisations and the conditions therefore shall be laid down in the relevant agreements and shall comply with the rules of procedure of the Security Accreditation Board.

Article 39

Voting rules of the Security Accreditation Board

If consensus according to the general principles referred to in Article 36 cannot be reached, the Security Accreditation Board shall take decisions on the basis of qualified majority voting, in accordance with Article 16 of the Treaty on European Union. The representative of the Commission and the representative of the High Representative shall not vote. The Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board shall sign, on behalf of the Security Accreditation Board, the decisions adopted by the Security Accreditation Board.

Article 40

Communication and impact of decisions of the Security Accreditation Board

1. The decisions of the Security Accreditation Board shall be addressed to the Commission.
2. The Commission shall keep the Security Accreditation Board continuously informed of the impact of any decisions envisaged by the Security Accreditation Board on the proper conduct of the components of the Programme, and of the implementation of residual risk treatment plans. The Security Accreditation Board shall take note of any such information from the Commission.
3. The Commission shall keep the European Parliament and the Council informed, without delay, of the impact of the adoption of the security accreditation decisions on the proper conduct of the components of the Programme. If the Commission considers that a decision taken by the Security Accreditation Board may have a significant effect on the proper conduct of these components, for example in terms of costs, schedule or performance, it shall immediately inform the European Parliament and the Council.
4. The Administrative Board shall be kept periodically informed of the evolution of the work of the Security Accreditation Board.
5. The timetable for the work of the Security Accreditation Board shall not hamper the timetable of activities provided in the work programme referred to in Article 100.

Article 41

Role of the Member States in security accreditation

Member States shall:

- (a) transmit to the Security Accreditation Board all information they consider relevant for the purposes of security accreditation;

(b) permit duly authorised persons appointed by the Security Accreditation Board, in agreement with and under the supervision of national entities competent in security matters, to have access to any information and to any areas and/or sites related to the security of systems falling within their jurisdiction, in accordance with their national laws and regulations, and without any discrimination on ground of nationality of nationals of Member States, including for the purposes of security inspections, audits and tests as decided by the Security Accreditation Board and of the security risk monitoring process referred to in Article 36(h). These audits and tests shall be performed in accordance with the following principles:

i) the importance of security and effective risk management within the entities inspected shall be emphasised;

ii) countermeasures to mitigate the specific impact of loss of confidentiality, integrity or availability of classified information shall be recommended;

(c) each be responsible for devising a template for access control, which is to outline or list the areas/sites to be accredited, and which shall be agreed in advance between the Member States and the Security Accreditation Board, thereby ensuring that the same level of access control is being provided by all Member States;

(d) be responsible, at local level, for the accreditation of the security of sites that are located within their territory and form part of the security accreditation area for the components of the Programme, and report, to this end, to the Security Accreditation Board.

CHAPTER III

Protection of classified information

Article 42

Protection of classified information

Within the scope of this Regulation:

- (a) The exchange of classified information related to the Programme shall be subject to the existence of an international agreement between the Union and a third country or international organisation on the exchange of classified information or, where applicable, an arrangement entered into by the competent Union Institution or body and the relevant authorities of a third country or international organisation on the exchange of classified information, and to the conditions laid down therein;
- (b) [...]
- (c) natural persons resident in and legal persons established in third countries may deal with European Union classified information regarding the Programme only where they are subject, in those countries, to security regulations ensuring a degree of protection at least equivalent to that provided by the Commission's rules on security set out in Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 and by the security rules of the Council set out in the Annexes to Decision 2013/488/EU. The equivalence of the security regulations applied in a third country or international organisation shall be defined in a security of information agreement, including industrial security matters if relevant, concluded between the Union and that third country or international organisation in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 218 TFEU and taking into account Article 13 of Decision 2013/488/EU;
- (d) without prejudice to Article 13 of Decision 2013/488/EU and to the rules governing the field of industrial security as set out in Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444, a natural person or legal person, third country or international organisation may be given access to European Union classified information where deemed necessary on a case-by-case basis, according to the nature and content of such information, the recipient's need-to-know and the degree of advantage to the Union.

TITLE VI

Galileo and EGNOS

Article 43

Eligible actions

The exploitation of Galileo and EGNOS shall cover the following eligible actions:

- (a) the management, operation, maintenance, continuous improvement, evolution and protection of the space-based infrastructure, including upgrades and obsolescence management;
- (b) the management, operation, maintenance, continuous improvement, evolution and protection of the ground-based infrastructure, in particular ground based centres and stations referred to in Decision (EU) 2016/413 or (EU) 2017/1406, networks, including upgrades and obsolescence management;
- (c) the development of future generations of the systems and the evolution of the services provided by Galileo and EGNOS, without prejudice to future decisions on the Union financial perspectives, including by taking into account the needs of relevant stakeholders;
- (ca) support the development of Galileo and EGNOS downstream applications and the development and evolution of fundamental technological elements, such as Galileo-enabled chipsets and receivers;
- (d) the support of certification and standardisation activities related to Galileo and EGNOS, in particular in the transport sector;
- (e) the continuous provision of the services provided by Galileo and EGNOS and, in complementarity with Member States and private sector initiatives, the market development of those services, in particular, in order to maximise the socio-economic benefits referred to in Article 4(1);
- (f) cooperation with other regional or global satellite navigation systems, including to facilitate compatibility and interoperability;
- (g) elements to monitor the reliability of the systems and their exploitation, and the performance of the services;

(h) activities related to the provision of services and to the coordination of the extension of their coverage.

Article 44

Services provided by Galileo

1. The services provided by Galileo shall comprise:

(a) a Galileo open service (GOS), which shall be free of charge for users and provides positioning and synchronisation information intended mainly for high-volume satellite navigation applications for use by consumers;

(b) a high-accuracy service (HAS), which shall be free of charge for users and shall provide, through additional data disseminated in a supplementary frequency band, high-accuracy positioning and synchronisation information intended mainly for satellite navigation applications for professional or commercial use;

(c) a signal authentication service (SAS), based on the encrypted codes contained in the signals, intended mainly for satellite navigation applications for professional or commercial use;

(d) a public regulated service (PRS), which shall be restricted to government-authorized users for sensitive applications which require a high level of service continuity, including in the area of security and defence, using strong, encrypted signals; it shall be free of charge for the Member States, the Council, the Commission, EEAS and, where appropriate, duly authorised Union agencies; the question of whether to charge the other PRS participants referred to in Article 2 of Decision No 1104/2011/EU shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate provisions shall be specified in the agreements concluded pursuant to Article 3(5) of that Decision; access to PRS shall be regulated in accordance with Decision 1104/2011/EU applicable to the Member States, the Council, the Commission, the EEAS and Union agencies;

(e) an emergency service (ES), which shall be free of charge for users, and broadcast, through emitting signals, warnings regarding natural disasters or other emergencies in particular areas; it shall be provided in cooperation with Member States national civil protection authorities, where appropriate;

(f) a timing service (TS), which shall be free of charge to the user and provides an accurate and robust reference time as well as realization of the coordinated universal time, facilitating the development of timing applications based on Galileo and the use in critical applications.

2. Galileo shall also contribute to:

(a) the search and rescue support service (SAR) of the COSPAS-SARSAT system by detecting distress signals transmitted by beacons and relaying messages to them via a ‘return link’;

(b) integrity-monitoring services standardized at the Union or international level for use by safety-of-life services, on the basis the signals of Galileo open service and in combination with EGNOS and other satellite navigation systems;

(c) space weather information via the GNSS Service Centre²³ and early warning services via the Galileo ground based infrastructure, intended mainly to reduce the potential risks to users of the services provided by Galileo and other GNSSs related to space.

Article 45

Services provided by EGNOS

1. The services provided by EGNOS shall comprise:

(a) an EGNOS open service (EOS), which shall be free of charge for users, and shall provide positioning and synchronisation information intended mainly for high-volume satellite navigation applications for use by consumers;

(b) EGNOS data access service (EDAS), which shall be free of charge for users and shall provide positioning and synchronisation information intended mainly for satellite navigation applications for professional or commercial use, offering improved performance and data with greater added value than those obtained through the EOS;

²³ Commission implementing Decision (EU) 2016/413 of 18 March 2016 determining the location of the ground-based infrastructure of the system established under the Galileo programme and setting out the necessary measures to ensure that it functions smoothly, and repealing Implementing Decision 2012/117/EU (OJ L 74, 19.03.2016, pp. 45-49).

(c) a safety-of-life (SoL) service, which shall be free of direct user charges and shall provide positioning and time synchronisation information with a high level of continuity, availability and accuracy, including an integrity message alerting users to any failure in, or out-of-tolerance signals emitted by, Galileo and other GNSSs which it augments in the coverage area, intended mainly for users for whom safety is essential, in particular in the sector of civil aviation for the purpose of air navigation services, according to ICAO standards or other transport sectors.

2. The services referred to in paragraph 1 shall be provided as a priority on the territory of all Member States geographically located in Europe, including for this purpose Cyprus, the Azores, the Canary Islands and Madeira, by the end of 2026.

The geographical coverage of EGNOS may be extended to other regions of the world, in particular to the territories of candidate countries, of third countries associated with the Single European Sky and of third countries in the European Neighbourhood Policy, subject to technical feasibility and in conformity with security requirements referred to in Article 34, and for the SoL service, on the basis of international agreements.

3. The cost of such extension, including the related operating costs specific to these regions, shall not be covered by the budget referred to in Article 11. The Commission shall consider other programmes or instrument to finance such activities. Such extension shall not delay the offering of the services referred to in paragraph 1 throughout the territory of Member States geographically located in Europe.

Article 46

Implementing measures for Galileo and EGNOS

Where necessary for the smooth functioning of Galileo and EGNOS and their adoption by the market, the Commission shall lay down, where necessary, measures required to:

- (a) manage and reduce the risks inherent in the operation of Galileo and EGNOS, in particular to ensure service continuity;
- (b) specify the key decision stages to monitor and evaluate the implementation of Galileo and EGNOS;

(c) determine the location of the centres belonging to the ground-based infrastructure of Galileo and EGNOS in accordance with security requirements, following an open and transparent process, and ensure their operation.

(d) determine the technical and operational specifications relating to the services referred to in Article 44 point (1)(c), (e), (f) and point (2) (c).

Those implementing measures shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Article 47

Compatibility, interoperability and standardization

1. Galileo and EGNOS, and the services which they provide, shall be fully compatible and interoperable from a technical point of view, including at users' level.
2. Galileo and EGNOS, and the services which they provide, shall be compatible and interoperable with other satellite navigation systems and with conventional means of radio navigation, where the necessary compatibility and interoperability requirements and conditions thereof are laid down in international agreements.

TITLE VII

Copernicus

CHAPTER I

General provisions

Article 48

Scope of Copernicus

1. Copernicus shall be implemented building on prior investments, including by stakeholders such as European Space Agency and EUMETSAT and, where appropriate and cost-effective, drawing on the national or regional capacities of Member States and taking into account the capacities of commercial suppliers of comparable data and information and the need to foster competition and market development, while maximising opportunities for European users.

2. Copernicus shall deliver data and information, building on Copernicus user needs and based on a full, free and open data policy.
 - 2a. Copernicus shall support the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the Union and its Member States policies in particular in the fields of the environment, climate change, marine, maritime, atmosphere, agriculture and rural development, preservation of cultural heritage, civil protection, infrastructure monitoring, safety and security, as well as the digital economy with the aim to further reduce the administrative burden;
3. Copernicus shall comprise four elements, namely:
 - (a) data acquisition which shall include:
 - the development and operations of the Copernicus Sentinels;
 - access to third party space-borne Earth Observation data;
 - access to in situ and other ancillary data;
 - (b) data and information processing through Copernicus Services, which shall include activities for the generation of value-added information to support environmental monitoring, reporting and compliance assurance, civil protection and security services;
 - (c) data access and distribution component, which shall include infrastructure and services to ensure the discovery, viewing, access to, distribution and exploitation and long-term preservation of Copernicus data and Copernicus information, in a user-friendly manner;
 - (d) user uptake, market development and capacity building in accordance with Article 29(5), which shall include relevant activities, resources and services to promote Copernicus, its data and Services, as well as related downstream applications and their development at all levels to maximise socio-economic benefits which are referred to in Article 4(1) as well as the collection and analysis of user needs.
4. Copernicus shall promote the international coordination of observation systems and related exchanges of data in order to strengthen its global dimension and complementarity taking account of international agreements and coordination processes.

CHAPTER II

Eligible actions

Article 49

Eligible actions for data acquisition

Eligible actions under Copernicus shall cover:

- (a) actions to provide enhanced continuity of existing Sentinel missions and to develop, launch, maintain and operate further Sentinels expanding the observation scope, giving priority in particular to observation capacities for monitoring anthropogenic CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions, allowing for monitoring polar regions and enabling innovative environmental applications in agriculture, forest, water and marine resources management, and cultural heritage;
- (b) actions to provide access to third-party data necessary to generate Copernicus services or for use by the Union's institutions, agencies, decentralised services and, where appropriate and cost-effective, national or regional public bodies;
- (c) actions to provide and coordinate access to in situ and other ancillary data necessary for the generation, calibration and validation of Copernicus data and Copernicus information-, including where appropriate and cost-effective the use of existing national capacities and avoiding duplications.

Article 50

Eligible actions for Copernicus Services

Copernicus shall include actions in support of the following services:

- (a) environmental monitoring, reporting and compliance assurance services covering:
 - atmosphere monitoring to provide information on air quality with a global coverage, with a special focus at European level, and composition of the atmosphere
 - marine environment monitoring to provide information on the state and dynamics of ocean, sea and coastal ecosystems, their resource and use;

- land monitoring and agriculture to provide information on land cover, land use and land use change, cultural heritage sites, ground motion, urban areas, inland water quantity and quality, forests, agriculture and other natural resources, biodiversity and cryosphere;
 - climate change monitoring to provide information on anthropogenic CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions and absorptions, essential climate variables, climate reanalyses, seasonal forecasts, climate projections and attribution, information on Polar/Arctic changes, as well as indicators at relevant temporal and spatial scales;
- (b) emergency management service to provide information in support of and in coordination with public authorities concerned with civil protection, supporting civil protection and emergency response operations (improving early warning activities and crisis response capacities), and prevention and preparedness actions (risk and recovery analyses) in relation to different types of disasters;
- (c) security service to support surveillance of the Union's and its external borders, maritime surveillance, as well as Union external action responding to security challenges facing the Union, and Common Foreign and Security Policy objectives and actions.
2. The Commission, supported where relevant by external independent expertise, shall ensure the pertinence of the Services by:
- (a) validating the technical feasibility and fitness for purpose of the requirements expressed by the user communities;
 - (b) assessing the means and solutions, proposed or executed, to meet the requirements of the user communities and the objectives of the Programme.

Article 51

Eligible actions for data and information access and distribution

1. Copernicus shall include actions to provide enhanced access to all Copernicus data and Copernicus information and, where appropriate, provide additional infrastructure and services to foster the distribution, access and use of those data and information.
2. Where Copernicus data or Copernicus information are security sensitive according to Articles 12 to 16 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1159/2013²⁴, the Commission may entrust the procurement, the supervision of the acquisition, the access to and the distribution of those data and information to one or more fiduciary entities. Such entities shall set up and maintain a registry of accredited users and grant access to the restricted data through a segregated workflow.

CHAPTER III

Copernicus data policy

Article 52

Copernicus data and Copernicus information policy

1. Copernicus data and Copernicus information shall be provided to users under the following free, full and open data policy:
 - (a) Copernicus users may, on a free and worldwide basis, reproduce, distribute, communicate to the public, adapt, and modify all Copernicus data and Copernicus information and combine them with other data and information;
 - (b) the free, full and open data policy shall include the following limitations:
 - (i) the formats, timeliness and dissemination characteristics of Copernicus data and Copernicus information shall be pre-defined;

²⁴ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1159/2013 of 12 July 2013 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 911/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Earth monitoring programme (GMES) by establishing registration and licensing conditions for GMES users and defining criteria for restricting access to GMES dedicated data and GMES service information (OJ L 309, 19.11.13, p. 1)

- (ii) the licensing conditions of third-party data and third-party information used in the production of Copernicus Services information shall be abided by where applicable;
 - (iii) the security limitations resulting from the general security requirements referred to in Article 34(1);
 - (iv) protection against the risk of disruption of the system producing or making available Copernicus data and Copernicus information and of the data itself shall be ensured;
 - (v) the protection of reliable access to Copernicus data and Copernicus information for European users shall be ensured.
2. The Commission shall adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 105 concerning the specific provisions to supplement paragraph 1 as regards the specifications and conditions and procedures for the access to and use of Copernicus data and Copernicus information.
3. The Commission shall issue licenses and notices for access and use of Copernicus data and Copernicus information, including attribution clauses, in compliance with the Copernicus data policy as set out in this Regulation and applicable delegated acts under paragraph 2.

TITLE VIII

OTHER COMPONENTS OF THE PROGRAMME

CHAPTER I

SSA

SECTION 1

SST

Article 53

Scope of SST

The SST sub-components shall support the following activities:

- (a) the establishment, development and operation of a network of ground-based and/or space-based SST sensors of the Member States, including sensors developed through the European Space Agency or the Union private sector, and nationally operated Union sensors, to survey and track space objects and to produce a European catalogue' of space objects;
- (b) the processing and analysis of SST data at national level in order to produce SST information and services referred to in Article 54;
- (c) the provision of the SST services referred to in Article 54 to the users referred to in Article 55;
- (cc) monitoring and seeking synergies with initiatives promoting development and deployment of technologies for spacecraft disposal at the end of operational lifetime, of technological systems for the prevention and elimination of space debris as well as with the international initiatives in the area of the space traffic management.

2. The SST component shall also provide technical and administrative support to ensure the transition between the EU Space Programme and the SST Support Framework established by Decision No 541/2014/EU.

Article 54

SST services

1. SST services shall comprise:
 - (a) the risk assessment of collision between spacecraft or between spacecraft and space debris and the potential generation of collision avoidance alerts during the phases of launch, early orbit, orbit raising, in-orbit operations and disposal phases of spacecraft missions;
 - (b) the detection and characterisation of in-orbit fragmentations, break-ups or collisions;
 - (c) the risk assessment of the uncontrolled re-entry of space objects and space debris into the Earth's atmosphere and the generation of related information, including the estimation of the timeframe and likely location of possible impact;
 - (d) the development of activities in preparation of:
 - (i) space debris mitigation in order to reduce their generation, and
 - (ii) space debris remediation by managing the existing space debris.
2. SST services shall be free of charge, available at any time without interruption and adapted to the needs of the users referred to in Article 55.
3. Participating Member States, the Commission and, where relevant, the Front desk, shall not be held liable for:
 - (a) damage resulting from the lack of or interruption in the provision of SST services;
 - (b) delay in the provision of SST services;"
 - (c) inaccuracy of the information provided through the SST services; or
 - (d) action undertaken in response to the provision of SST services.

Article 55

SST Users

1. EU users shall comprise:

- (a) SST core users: Member States, the EEAS, the Commission, the Council, the Agency as well as public and private spacecraft owners and operators established in the Union;
- (b) SST non-core users: other public and private entities established in the Union.

SST core users shall have access to all SST services referred to in Article 54(1).

SST non core users may have access to SST services referred to in points (b) to (d) of Article 54(1):

2. International users shall comprise third countries, international organisations not having their headquarters in the Union and private entities not established in the Union under the following conditions:

- (a) third countries and international organisations not having their headquarters in the Union may have access to SST services pursuant to Article 8(1a);
- (b) Private entities not established in the Union may have access to SST services subject to an international agreement, established in accordance with Article 8(1a), with the third country in which they are established granting them that access.

3. By derogation to paragraph 2 of this Article, no international agreement shall be required where an SST service referred to in Article 54(1) is publically available.

4. The Commission may adopt, by means of implementing acts, detailed provisions concerning the access to SST services and relevant procedures. Those provisions shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Article 56

Participation of Member States

1. Member States wishing to participate in the provision of SST services referred to in Article 54 covering all orbits shall submit a single joint proposal to the Commission demonstrating compliance with the following criteria:

- (a) ownership of, or access to, either adequate SST sensors available for EU SST and human resources to operate them, or adequate operational analysis and data processing capabilities specifically designed for SST and available for EU SST;
- (b) initial security risk assessment of each SST asset performed and validated by the relevant Member State;
- (c) an action plan taking into account the coordination plan adopted under Article 6 of Decision 541/2014/EU, for the implementation of the activities set out in Article 53 of this Regulation;
- (d) the distribution of the different activities among the Expert Teams as designated pursuant to Article 57;
- (e) the rules on the sharing of data necessary for achieving the objectives referred to in Article 4.

As concerns criteria set out in points (a) and (b), each Member States wishing to participate in the provision of SST services shall demonstrate compliance with these criteria separately.

As concerns criteria set out in points c) to e), all Member States wishing to participate in the delivery of SST services shall demonstrate compliance with those criteria collectively.

2. The criteria referred to in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 1 shall be deemed to be fulfilled by the participating Member States whose designated national entities are members of the Consortium established in accordance with Article 7 of Decision No 541/2014/EU as on the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

3. Where no joint proposal has been submitted in accordance with paragraph 1 or where the Commission considers that a joint proposal thus submitted does not comply with the criteria referred to in paragraph 1, at least five Member States may submit a new joint proposal to the Commission, demonstrating compliance with the criteria referred to in paragraph 1.

4. The Commission may adopt, by means of implementing acts, the detailed provisions concerning the procedures and elements referred to in paragraphs 1 to 3. Those implementing measures shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Article 57

Organisational framework of Member States' participation

1. All Member States which have submitted a proposal that has been found compliant by the Commission in accordance with Article 56(1) or which have been selected by the Commission pursuant to the procedure referred to in Article 56(3) shall designate a Constituting National Entity established on their territory to represent them. The Constituting National Entity shall be a Member State public authority or a body entrusted with the exercise of such public authority.
2. The Constituting National Entities designated pursuant to paragraph 1 shall conclude an agreement creating an SST partnership and laying down the rules and mechanisms for their cooperation in implementing the activities referred to in Article 53. In particular, that agreement shall include the elements mentioned in points (c) to (e) of Article 56(1) and the establishment of a risk management structure to ensure the implementation of the provisions on the use and secure exchange of SST data and SST information.
3. The Constituting National Entities shall develop Union SST services of high quality in accordance with a multiannual plan, relevant key performance indicators and users' requirements, on the basis of the activities of the Expert Teams referred to in paragraph 6. The Commission may adopt, by means of implementing acts, the multiannual plan and the key performance indicators in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).
4. The Constituting National Entities shall network existing and possible future sensors to operate them in a coordinated and optimised way with a view to establishing and maintaining an up-to-date common European catalogue, without prejudice to Member States' prerogatives in the area of national security.
5. The participating Member States shall perform security accreditation on the basis of the general security requirements referred to in Article 34(1).

6. Expert Teams shall be designated by the SST participating Member States to be in charge of specific issues related to the different SST activities. The Expert Teams shall be permanent, managed and staffed by the Constituting National Entities of the Member States which set them up and may include experts from every Constituting National Entity.
7. Constituting National Entities and Expert Teams shall ensure the protection of SST data, SST information and SST services.
8. The Commission shall adopt, by implementing acts, detailed rules on the functioning of the organisational framework of the participation of Member States in SST. Those rules shall also cover for the inclusion at a later stage of a Member State in the SST partnership agreement referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Article 58

SST Front desk

1. The Commission, taking into account the recommendation of the Constituting National Entities, shall select the SST Front Desk on the basis of the best expertise in security issues and in service provision. That front desk shall:
 - (a) provide the necessary secure interfaces to centralise, store and make available SST information to SST users, ensuring their adequate handling and traceability;
 - (b) provide reporting on the performance of the SST services to the SST partnership and the Commission;
 - (c) gather the necessary feedback for the SST partnership to ensure the required alignment of services with user expectations;
 - (d) support, promote and encourage the use of the services.
2. The Constituting National Entities shall conclude the necessary implementing arrangements with the SST Front Desk.

SECTION II

Space Weather and NEO

Article 59

Space Weather activities

1. The space weather sub-components may support the following activities:
 - (a) the assessment and identification of the needs of the users in the sectors identified in paragraph 2(b) with the aim of setting out the space weather services to be provided;
 - (b) the provision of space weather services to the space weather services' users, according to the identified users' needs and technical requirements.
2. Space weather services shall be available at any time without interruption. The Commission shall select, by means of implementing acts, those services according to the following rules:
 - (a) the Commission shall prioritise the space weather services to be delivered at Union level according to the needs of users, the technological readiness of the services and the result of a risk assessment;
 - (b) the space weather services may contribute to civil protection activities and to the protection of a wide range of sectors such as: space, transport, GNSSs, electric power grids and communications.Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 107(2).
3. The selection of public or private entities to provide space weather services shall be performed through a call for tenders.

Article 60

NEO activities

1. The NEO sub-components may support the following activities:
 - (a) the mapping of Member States' capacities for detecting and monitoring NEOs;
 - (b) the promotion of the networking of Member States' facilities and research centres;

- (c) the development of the service referred to in paragraph 2.
- (d) the development of a routine rapid response service able to characterise newly discovered NEOs.
- (e) the creation of a European catalogue of NEO.

2. The Commission, in its field of competence, may put in place procedures to coordinate, with the involvement of the appropriate United Nation's bodies, the actions of the Union and national public authorities concerned with civil protection in the event a NEO is found to be approaching Earth.

CHAPTER II

GOVSATCOM

Article 61

Scope of GOVSATCOM

Under the GOVSATCOM component satellite communication capacities and services shall be combined into a common Union pool of satellite communication capacities and services, with appropriate security requirements. This component comprises:

- (a) the development, construction, and operations of the ground segment infrastructure; referred to in Article 66 and possible space infrastructure referred to in Article 102(2);
- (b) the procurement of governmental and commercial satellite communication capacity, services, and user equipment necessary for the provision of GOVSATCOM services;
- (c) measures necessary to further interoperability and standardisation of GOVSATCOM user equipment.

Article 62

Capacities and services provided under GOVSATCOM

1. The provision of GOVSATCOM capacities and services shall be ensured as laid down in the service portfolio referred to in paragraph 3, in accordance with the operational requirements referred to in paragraph 2, GOVSATCOM specific security requirements referred to in Article 34(1) and within the limits of the sharing and prioritisation rules referred to in Article 65. Access to GOVSATCOM capacities and services shall be free of charge for institutional and governmental users unless the Commission decides on a pricing policy in accordance with Article 65(2)
2. The Commission shall adopt, by means of implementing acts, the operational requirements for services provided under GOVSATCOM, in the form of technical specifications for use-cases related in particular to crisis management, surveillance and key infrastructure management, including diplomatic communication networks. Those operational requirements shall be based on the detailed analysis of the requirements of users, and taking into account requirements stemming from existing user equipment and networks. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).
3. The Commission shall adopt, by means of implementing acts, the service portfolio for services provided under GOVSATCOM, in the form of a list of categories of satellite communication capacities and services and their attributes, including geographic coverage, frequency, bandwidth, user equipment, and security features. Those measures shall be regularly updated and shall be based on the operational and security requirements referred to in paragraph 1 and shall prioritise services provided to users according to their relevance and criticality. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).
- 3a. The service portfolio referred to in paragraph 3 shall take into consideration existing commercially available services in order not to distort competition in the internal market.
4. GOVSATCOM users shall have access to the capacities and services listed in the service portfolio. That access shall be provided through the GOVSATCOM Hubs referred to in Article 66.

Article 63

Providers of satellite communication capacities and services

Satellite communication capacities and services under this component may be provided by the following entities:

- (a) GOVSATCOM participants as referred to in Article 67, and
- (b) legal persons duly accredited to provide satellite capacities or services in accordance with the security accreditation procedure referred to in Article 36, which shall be based on the general security requirements referred to in Article 34 (1) defined for the GOVSATCOM component.

Article 64

GOVSATCOM users

1. The following entities may be GOVSATCOM users provided that they are entrusted with tasks relating to the supervision and management of emergency and security-critical missions, operations and infrastructures:

- (a) Union or Member State public authority or a body charged with the exercise of such public authority,
- (b) a natural or legal person acting on behalf of and under the control of an entity referred to under (a).

2. GOVSATCOM users shall be duly authorised by a participant referred to in Article 67 to use GOVSATCOM capacities and services and shall comply with the general security requirements referred to in Article 34(1), defined for the GOVSATCOM component.

Article 65

Sharing and prioritisation

1. Pooled satellite communication capacities, services and user equipment shall be shared and prioritised between GOVSATCOM participants on the basis of an analysis of safety and security risks of the users. Such analysis shall take into account existing communication infrastructure and availability of existing capabilities as well as their geographic coverage, at Union and Member State level. This sharing and prioritisation shall prioritise users according to their relevance and criticality.
2. The Commission shall adopt, by means of implementing acts, the detailed rules on the sharing and prioritisation of capacities, services, and user equipment, taking into account expected demand for the different use-cases, the analysis of security risks for those use-cases and, where appropriate, cost-efficiency.

By defining a pricing policy in those rules, the Commission shall ensure that the provision of GOVSATCOM capacities and services does not distort the market and shall ensure that there is no shortage of GOVSATCOM capacities.

Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

3. The sharing and prioritisation of satellite communication capacities and services between GOVSATCOM users which are authorised by the same GOVSATCOM participant shall be determined and implemented by that participant.

Article 66

Ground segment infrastructure and operation

1. The ground segment shall include infrastructure necessary to enable the provision of services to users in accordance with Article 65, particularly the GOVSATCOM Hubs which shall be procured under this component to connect GOVSATCOM users with providers of satellite communication capacities and services. The ground segment and its operation shall comply with the general security requirement referred to in Article 34(1), defined for the GOVSATCOM component.

2. The Commission shall determine, by means of implementing acts, the location of the ground segment infrastructure. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3), and shall be without prejudice to the right of a Member State to decide not to host any such infrastructure.

Article 67

GOVSATCOM participants and competent authorities

1. Member States, the Council, the Commission and the EEAS shall be GOVSATCOM participants insofar as they authorise GOVSATCOM users, or provide satellite communication capacities or ground segment sites or part of the ground segment facilities.

Where the Council, the Commission or the EEAS authorise GOVSATCOM users, or provide satellite communication capacities or ground segment sites or part of the ground segment facilities, on the territory of a Member State, such authorisation or provision shall not contravene neutrality or non-alignment provisions stipulated in the constitutional law of that Member State.

2. Union agencies may become GOVSATCOM participants only insofar as necessary to fulfill their tasks and in accordance with detailed rules laid down in an administrative arrangement concluded between the agency concerned and the Union institution that supervises it.

3. Each participant shall designate one competent GOVSATCOM authority.

4. A competent GOVSATCOM authority shall ensure that

(a) the use of services is in compliance with the applicable security requirements;

(b) the access rights for GOVSATCOM users are determined and managed;

(c) user equipment and associated electronic communication connections and information are used and managed in accordance with applicable security requirements;

(d) a central point of contact is established to assist as necessary in the reporting of security risks and threats, in particular the detection of potentially harmful electromagnetic interference affecting the services under this component.

Article 68

Monitoring of supply and demand for GOVSATCOM

The Commission shall monitor the evolution of supply, including existing Govsatcom capacities in orbit for pooling and sharing, and demand for GOVSATCOM capacities and services continuously, taking into account new risks and threats, as well as new technology developments, in order to optimise the balance between that supply and demand for GOVSATCOM services.

Article 69

[...]

TITLE IX

THE EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR THE SPACE PROGRAMME

CHAPTER I

General provisions relating to the Agency

Article 70

Legal status of the Agency

1. The Agency shall be a body of the Union. It shall have legal personality.
2. In each of the Member States, the Agency shall enjoy the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under the law. It may, in particular, acquire or dispose of movable and immovable property and be a party to legal proceedings.
3. The Agency shall be represented by its Executive Director.

Article 71

Seat of the Agency and local offices

- 1 The seat of the Agency is located in Prague (Czech Republic).
- 2 Staff of the Agency may be located in one of the Galileo or EGNOS ground based centres referred to in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/413 or (EU) 2017/1406, to execute Programme activities provided for in the relevant agreement.

3. Depending on the needs of the Programme, local offices may be established in the Member States in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 79(2).

CHAPTER II

Organisation of the Agency

Article 72

Administrative and management structure

1. The Agency's administrative and management structure shall comprise:
 - (a) the Administrative Board;
 - (b) the Executive Director;
 - (c) the Security Accreditation Board
2. The Administrative Board, the Executive Director, the Security Accreditation Board shall cooperate to ensure the operation of the Agency and coordination in accordance with the procedures determined by the Agency's internal rules, such as the rules of procedure of the Administrative Board, the rules of procedure of the Security Accreditation Board, the financial rules applicable to the Agency, the implementing rules for the status of staff and the rules governing access to documents.

Article 73

Administrative Board

1. The Administrative Board shall be composed of one representative from each Member State, and three representatives of the Commission, all with voting rights. The Administrative Board shall also include one member designated by the European Parliament, with no voting rights.
2. The Chairperson or the Deputy Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board, a representative of the Council, a representative of the High Representative and a representative of the European Space Agency shall be invited to attend the meetings of the Administrative Board as observers for matters related directly to them, under the conditions laid down in the rules of procedure of the Administrative Board.

3. Each member of the Administrative Board shall have an alternate. The alternate shall represent the member in his/her absence.
4. Each Member State shall nominate a member and an alternate members of the Administrative Board taking account of their knowledge in the field of the Agency's tasks, taking into account relevant managerial, administrative and budgetary skills. The European Parliament, the Commission and the Member States shall endeavour to limit changes of their representatives on the Administrative Board, in order to ensure continuity of the Board's activities. All parties shall aim to achieve a balanced representation between men and women on the Administrative Board.
5. The term of office of the members of the Administrative Board and their alternates shall be four years, renewable.
6. Where appropriate, the participation of representatives of third countries or international organisations and the conditions thereof shall be established in the agreements referred to in Article 98 and shall comply with the rules of procedure of the Administrative Board. Those representatives shall have no voting rights.

Article 74

Chairperson of the Administrative Board

1. The Administrative Board shall elect a Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson from among its members having voting rights. The Deputy Chairperson shall automatically replace the Chairperson if he or she is prevented from attending to his or her duties.
2. The term of office of the Chairperson and of the Deputy Chairperson shall be two years, renewable once. It shall be ended in case that person ceases to be a member of the Administrative Board.
3. The Administrative Board shall have the power to dismiss the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson or both of them.

Article 75

Meetings of the Administrative Board

1. Meetings of the Administrative Board shall be convened by its Chairperson.
2. The Executive Director shall take part in the deliberations, unless the Chairperson decides otherwise. He/she shall not have the right to vote.
3. The Administrative Board shall hold ordinary meetings on a regular basis, at least twice a year. In addition, it shall meet on the initiative of its Chairperson or at the request of at least one third of its members.
4. The Administrative Board may invite any person whose opinion may be of interest to attend its meetings as an observer. The members of the Administrative Board may, subject to its rules of procedure, be assisted by advisers or experts.
5. Where discussion concerns the use of sensitive national infrastructure, the representatives of Member States and the representatives of the Commission may attend the meetings and deliberations of the Administrative Board, on a need to know basis, but only those representatives of Member States which possess such infrastructure and a representatives of the Commission are to take part in voting. Where the Chairperson of the Administrative Board does not represent one of the Member States which possess such infrastructure, he/she shall be replaced by the representatives of a Member States which possesses such infrastructure. The rules of procedure of the Administrative Board shall set out the situations in which this procedure may apply.
6. The Agency shall provide the secretariat of the Administrative Board.

Article 76

Voting rules of the Administrative Board

1. Unless this Regulation provides otherwise, the Administrative Board shall take its decisions by a majority of its voting members.

A majority of two thirds of all voting members shall be required for the election and dismissal of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Administrative Board and for the adoption of the budget, work programmes, approval of arrangements referred to in Article 98(2), security rules of the Agency, adoption of the rules of procedure, for the establishment of local offices and for the approval of the hosting agreements referred to in Article 92.

2. Each representative of the Member States and of the Commission shall have one vote. In the absence of a member with the right to vote, his or her alternate shall be entitled to exercise his or her right to vote. Decisions based on point (a) of Article 77(2), except for matters covered by Chapter II of Title V, or on Article 77(5), shall only be adopted with a favourable vote of the representatives of the Commission.

3. The rules of procedure of the Administrative Board shall establish more detailed voting arrangements, in particular the conditions for a member to act on behalf of another member as well as any quorum requirements as appropriate.

Article 77

Tasks of the Administrative Board

1. The Administrative Board shall ensure that the Agency carries out the work entrusted to it, under the conditions set out in this Regulation, and shall take any necessary decision to this end, without prejudice to the competences entrusted to the Security Accreditation Board for the activities under Chapter II of Title V.

2. The Administrative Board shall also:

(a) adopt, by 15 November each year, the Agency's work programme for the following year after incorporating, without any change, the section drafted by the Security Accreditation Board, in accordance with point (b) of Article 80, and after having received the Commission's opinion;

- (x) adopt, by 30 June of the first year of the multiannual financial framework provided for under Article 312 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the multiannual work programme of the Agency for the period covered by that multiannual financial framework after incorporating, without any change, the section drafted by the Security Accreditation Board in accordance with point(a) of Article 80 and after having received the Commission's opinion. The European Parliament shall be consulted on the multiannual work programme, provided that the purpose of the consultation is an exchange of views and the outcome is not binding on the Agency.
- (b) perform the budgetary functions laid down in Article 84(5), (6), (10) and (11);
- (c) oversee the operation of the Galileo Security Monitoring Centre as referred to in Article 34(3), point (b);
- (d) adopt arrangements to implement Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents²⁵, in accordance with Article 94;
- (e) approve the arrangements referred to in Article 98, after consulting the Security Accreditation Board, on the provisions of the arrangements concerning security accreditation;
- (f) adopt the technical procedures necessary to perform its tasks;
- (g) adopt the annual report on the activities and prospects of the Agency, having incorporated, without any change, the section drafted by the Security Accreditation Board in accordance with point (c) of Article 80 and forward it, by 1 July, to the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission and the Court of Auditors;
- (h) ensure adequate follow-up to the findings and recommendations arising from the evaluations and audits referred to in Article 102, as well as those arising from investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and all internal or external audit reports, and forward to the budgetary authority all information relevant to the outcome of the evaluation procedures;

²⁵ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).

- (i) be consulted by the Executive Director on the financial framework partnership agreements referred to in Article 31(2) and contribution agreements referred to in Articles 28(2a) and 30(5) before they are signed;
- (j) adopt the security rules of the Agency as referred to in Article 96;
- (k) approve, on the basis of a proposal from the Executive Director, an anti-fraud strategy;
- (l) approve, where necessary and on the basis of proposals from the Executive Director, the organisational structures referred to in point (n) of Article 77(1);
- (n) appoint an Accounting Officer, who may be the Commission's Accounting Officer, who shall be subject to the Staff Regulations and the Conditions of Employment of other servants and who shall be totally independent in the performance of his/her duties;
- (o) adopt and publish its rules of procedure.

3. With regard to the Agency's staff, the Administrative Board shall exercise the powers conferred by the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union ('Staff Regulations') on the appointing authority and by the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants on the authority empowered to conclude employment contracts (the 'powers of the appointing authority').

The Administrative Board shall adopt, in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 110 of the Staff Regulations, a decision based on Article 2(1) of the Staff Regulations and on Article 6 of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants delegating the relevant powers of the appointing authority to the Executive Director and defining the conditions under which this delegation of powers can be suspended. The Executive Director shall report back to the Administrative Board on the exercise of those delegated powers. The Executive Director shall be authorised to subdelegate those powers.

In application of the second subparagraph of this paragraph, where exceptional circumstances so require, the Administrative Board may, by way of a decision, temporarily suspend the delegation of the powers of the appointing authority to the Executive Director and those subdelegated by the latter and exercise them itself or delegate them to one of its members or to a staff member other than the Executive Director.

By way of derogation from the second subparagraph, the Administrative Board shall be required to delegate to the Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board the powers referred to in the first subparagraph with regard to the recruitment, assessment and reclassification of staff involved in the activities covered by Chapter II of Title V and the disciplinary measures to be taken with regard to such staff.

The Administrative Board shall adopt the implementing measures of the Staff Regulations and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 110 of the Staff Regulations. It shall first consult the Security Accreditation Board and duly take into account its observations with regard to the recruitment, assessment and reclassification of the staff involved in the activities under Chapter II of Title V and the relevant disciplinary measures to be taken.

It shall also adopt a decision laying down rules on the secondment of national experts to the Agency. Before adopting that decision, the Administrative Board shall consult the Security Accreditation Board with regard to the secondment of national experts involved in the security accreditation activities referred to in Chapter II of Title V and shall duly take account of its observations.

4. The Administrative Board shall appoint the Executive Director and may extend or end their term of office pursuant to Article 89.

5. The Administrative Board shall exercise disciplinary authority over the Executive Director in relation to his or her performance, in particular as regards security matters falling within the Agency's competence, except in respect of activities undertaken in accordance with Chapter II of Title V.

Article 78

Executive Director

1. The Agency shall be managed by its Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be accountable to the Administrative Board.

This paragraph shall be without prejudice to the autonomy and independence of the Security Accreditation Board and of the Agency staff under its supervision in accordance with Article 82 and to the powers granted to the Security Accreditation Board and the chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board in accordance with Articles 37 and 81 respectively.

2. Without prejudice to the powers of the Commission and the Administrative Board, the Executive Director shall be independent in the performance of his/her duties and shall neither seek nor take instructions from any government or from any other body.

Article 79

Tasks of the Executive Director

1. The Executive Director shall perform the following tasks:
 - (a) represent the Agency and sign the agreement referred to in Articles 31a, 28(2a) and 30(5);
 - (b) prepare the work of the Administrative Board and participate, without having the right to vote, in the work of the Administrative Board, subject to the second subparagraph of Article 75(2);
 - (c) implement the decisions of the Administrative Board;
 - (d) prepare the multiannual and annual work programmes of the Agency and submit them to the Administrative Board for approval, with the exception of the parts prepared and adopted by the Security Accreditation Board in accordance with points (a) and (b) of Article 80;
 - (e) implement the multiannual and annual work programmes, with the exception of the parts implemented by the Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board;
 - (f) prepare a progress report on the implementation of the annual work programme and, where relevant, of the multiannual work programme for each meeting of the Administrative Board, incorporating, without any change, the section prepared by the Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board;
 - (g) prepare the annual report on the activities and prospects of the Agency with the exception of the section prepared and approved by the Security Accreditation Board in accordance with point (c) of Article 80 concerning the activities covered by Title V, and submit it to the Administrative Board for approval;

- (h) handle the day-to-day administration of the Agency and take all necessary measures, including the adoption of internal administrative instructions and the publication of notices, to ensure the functioning of the Agency in accordance with this Regulation;
- (i) draw up a draft statement of estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Agency in accordance with Article 84 and implement the budget in accordance with Article 85;
- (j) ensure that the Agency, as the operator of the Galileo Security Monitoring Centre is able to respond to instructions provided under Decision 2014/496/CFSP and to fulfil its role as referred to in Article 6 of Decision No 1104/2011/EU;
- (k) ensure the circulation of all relevant information, in particular as regards security, within the agency structure referred to in Article 72(1);
- (l) determine, in close cooperation with the Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board for matters relating to security accreditation activities covered by Chapter II of Title V, the organisational structures of the Agency and submit them to the Administrative Board for approval. Those structures shall reflect the specific characteristics of the various components of the Programme;
- (m) exercise, with regard to the Agency's staff, the powers referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 37(3), to the extent that those powers have been delegated to him or her in accordance with the second subparagraph thereof;
- (n) ensure that secretarial services and all the resources necessary for their proper functioning are provided to the Security Accreditation Board, the bodies referred to in Article 37(3) and the Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board;
- (o) prepare an action plan for ensuring the follow-up of the findings and recommendations of the evaluations referred to in Article 102, with the exception of the section of the action plan concerning the activities covered by Chapter II of Title V, and submit, after having incorporated, without any change, the section drafted by the Security Accreditation Board, a twice-yearly progress report to the Commission, which shall also be submitted to the Administrative Board for information;
- (p) take the following measures to protect the financial interests of the Union:

- i) preventive measures against fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity and making use of effective supervisory measures;
 - ii) recovering sums unduly paid where irregularities are detected and, where appropriate, applying effective, proportionate and dissuasive administrative and financial penalties;
 - (q) draw up an anti-fraud strategy for the Agency that is proportionate to the risk of fraud, having regard to a cost-benefit analysis of the measures to be implemented and taking into account findings and recommendations arising from OLAF investigations and submit it to the Administrative Board for approval;
 - (r) provide reports to the European Parliament on the performance of his/her duties when invited to do so. The Council may invite the Executive Director to report on the performance of his/her duties.
2. The Executive Director shall decide whether it is necessary to locate one or more staff in one or more Member States for the purpose of carrying out the Agency's tasks in an efficient and effective manner. Before deciding to establish a local office the Executive Director shall obtain the prior approval of the Commission, the Administrative Board and the Member State(s) concerned. The decision shall specify the scope of the activities to be carried out at the local office in a manner that avoids unnecessary costs and duplication of administrative functions of the Agency. A hosting agreement with the Member State(s) concerned may be required. Where possible, the impact in terms of staff allocation and budget shall be incorporated in the draft single programming document referred to in Article 84(6).

Article 80

Management tasks of the Security Accreditation Board

Apart from the tasks referred to in Article 37, the Security Accreditation Board shall, as part of the management of the Agency:

- (a) prepare and approve that part of the multiannual work programme concerning the operational activities covered by Chapter II of Title V and the financial and human resources needed to accomplish those activities, and submit it to the Administrative Board in good time for it to be incorporated into the multiannual work programme;

- (b) prepare and approve that part of the annual work programme concerning the operational activities covered by Chapter II of Title V and the financial and human resources needed to accomplish those activities, and submit it to the Administrative Board in good time for it to be incorporated into the annual work programme;
- (c) prepare and approve that part of the annual report concerning the Agency's activities and prospects covered by Chapter II of Title V and the financial and human resources needed to accomplish those activities and prospects, and submit it to the Administrative Board in good time for it to be incorporated into the annual report.

Article 81

The Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board

1. The Security Accreditation Board shall elect a Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson from among its members by a two-thirds majority of all members with the right to vote. Where a two-thirds majority has not been achieved following two meetings of the Security Accreditation Board, a simple majority shall be required.
2. The Deputy Chairperson shall automatically replace the Chairperson if the latter is unable to attend to his or her duties.
3. The Security Accreditation Board shall have the power to dismiss the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson or both of them. It shall adopt the decision to dismiss by a two-thirds majority.
4. The term of office of the Chairperson and of the Deputy Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board shall be two years, renewable once. Each term of office shall end when that person ceases to be a member of the Security Accreditation Board.

Article 82

Organisational aspects of the Security Accreditation Board

1. The Security Accreditation Board shall have access to all the human and material resources required to perform its tasks independently. It shall have access to any information useful for the performance of its tasks in the possession of the other bodies of the Agency, without prejudice to the principles of autonomy and independence referred to in Article 36(i).

2. The Security Accreditation Board and the Agency staff under its supervision shall perform their work in a manner ensuring autonomy and independence in relation to the other activities of the Agency, in particular operational activities associated with the exploitation of the systems, in accordance with the objectives of the Programme's various components. No member of the Agency's staff under the supervision of the Security Accreditation Board may at the same time be assigned to other tasks within the Agency.

To that end, an effective organisational segregation shall be established within the Agency between the staff involved in activities covered by Chapter II of Title V and the other staff of the Agency. The Security Accreditation Board shall immediately inform the Executive Director, the Administrative Board and the Commission of any circumstances that could hamper its autonomy or independence. In the event that no remedy is found within the Agency, the Commission shall examine the situation, in consultation with the relevant parties. On the basis of the outcome of that examination, the Commission shall take appropriate mitigation measures to be implemented by the Agency, and shall inform the European Parliament and the Council thereof.

3. The Security Accreditation Board shall set up special subordinate bodies, acting on its instructions, to deal with specific issues. In particular, while ensuring necessary continuity of work, it shall set up a panel to conduct security analysis reviews and tests and produce the relevant risk reports in order to assist it in preparing its decisions. The Security Accreditation Board may set up and disband expert groups to contribute to the work of the panel.

Article 83

Tasks of the Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board

1. The Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board shall ensure that the Board carries out its security accreditation activities totally independently and shall perform the following tasks:
 - (a) manage security accreditation activities under the supervision of the Security Accreditation Board;
 - (b) implement the part of the Agency's multiannual and annual work programmes covered by Chapter II of Title V under the supervision of the Security Accreditation Board;

- (c) cooperate with the Executive Director to help to draw up the draft establishment plan referred to in Article 84(4) and the organisational structures of the Agency;
 - (d) prepare the section of the progress report concerning the operational activities covered by Chapter II of Title V, and submit it to the Security Accreditation Board and the Executive Director in good time for it to be incorporated into the progress report;
 - (e) prepare the section of the annual report and of the action plan, concerning the operational activities covered by Chapter II of Title V, and submit it to the Executive Director in good time;
 - (f) represent the Agency for the activities and decisions covered by Chapter II of Title V;
 - (g) exercise, with regard to the Agency's staff involved in the activities covered by Chapter II of Title V, the powers referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 77(3), delegated to him or her in accordance with the fourth subparagraph of Article 77(3).
2. For activities covered by Chapter II of Title V, the European Parliament and the Council may call upon the Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board for an exchange of views before those institutions on the work and prospects of the Agency, including with regard to the multiannual and annual work programmes.

CHAPTER III

Financial provisions relating to the Agency

Article 84

The Agency's budget

1. Without prejudice to other resources and dues, the revenue of the Agency shall include a Union contribution entered in Union budget in order to ensure a balance between revenue and expenditure. The Agency may receive ad hoc grants from the Union budget.
2. The expenditure of the Agency shall cover staff, administrative and infrastructure expenditure, operating costs and expenditure associated with the functioning of the Security Accreditation Board, including the bodies referred to in Article 37(3) and Article 82(3), and the contracts and agreements concluded by the Agency in order to accomplish the tasks entrusted to it.
3. Revenue and expenditure shall be in balance.

4. The Executive Director shall, in close collaboration with the Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board for activities covered by Chapter II of Title V, draw up a draft statement of estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Agency for the next financial year, making clear the distinction between those elements of the draft statement of estimates, which relate to security accreditation activities, and those relating to the Agency's other activities. The Chairperson of the Security Accreditation Board may write a statement on that draft, and the Executive Director shall forward both the draft statement of estimates and the statement to the Administrative Board and the Security Accreditation Board, together with a draft establishment plan.
5. Each year, the Administrative Board, based on the draft statement of estimates of revenue and expenditure and in close cooperation with the Security Accreditation Board for activities covered by Chapter II of Title V, shall draw up the statement of estimates of revenue and expenditure for the Agency for the next financial year.
6. The Administrative Board shall, by 31 January, forward a draft single programming document including inter alia a statement of estimates, a draft establishment plan, a provisional annual work programme, to the Commission and to the third countries or international organisations with which the Agency has entered into arrangements in accordance with Article 98.
7. The Commission shall forward the statement of estimates of revenue and expenditure to the European Parliament and to the Council (the 'budgetary authority') together with the draft general budget of the European Union.
8. On the basis of the statement of estimates, the Commission shall enter in the draft general budget of the European Union the estimates it deems necessary for the establishment plan and the amount of the subsidy to be charged to the general budget, which it shall place before the budgetary authority in accordance with Article 314 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
9. The budgetary authority shall authorise the appropriations for the contribution to the Agency and shall adopt the establishment plan for the Agency.
10. The budget shall be adopted by the Administrative Board. It shall become final following final adoption of the general budget of the European Union. Where necessary, it shall be adjusted accordingly.

11. The Administrative Board shall, as soon as possible, notify the budgetary authority of its intention to implement any project which will have significant financial implications for the funding of the budget, in particular any projects relating to property such as the rental or purchase of buildings. It shall inform the Commission thereof.

12. Where an arm of the budgetary authority has notified its intention to deliver an opinion, it shall forward its opinion to the Administrative Board within a period of six weeks from the date of notification of the project.

Article 85

Implementation of the Agency's budget

1. The Executive Director shall implement the Agency's budget.
2. Each year, the Executive Director shall communicate to the budgetary authority all the information needed for the exercise of their evaluation duties.

Article 86

Presentation of the Agency's accounts and discharge

The presentation of the Agency's provisional and final accounts and the discharge shall follow the rules and timetable of the Financial Regulation and of the Framework Financial Regulation for the bodies referred to in [Article 70] of the Financial Regulation.

Article 87

Financial provisions relating to the Agency

The financial rules applicable to the Agency shall be adopted by the Administrative Board after consulting the Commission. These rules may not depart from the framework financial regulation for the bodies referred to in [Article 70] of the Financial Regulation unless such a departure is specifically required for the Agency's operation and the Commission has given its prior consent.

CHAPTER V

The Agency's human resources

Article 88

The Agency's staff

1. The Staff Regulations, the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants and the rules adopted jointly by the institutions of the Union for the purposes of the application of those Staff Regulations and Conditions of Employment of Other Servants shall apply to the staff employed by the Agency.
2. The staff of the Agency shall consist of servants recruited by the Agency as necessary to perform its tasks. They shall have security clearance appropriate to the classification of the information they are handling.
3. The Agency's internal rules, such as the rules of procedure of the Administrative Board, the rules of procedure of the Security Accreditation Board, the financial rules applicable to the Agency, the rules implementing the Staff Regulations and the rules for access to documents, shall ensure the autonomy and independence of staff performing the security accreditation activities vis-à-vis staff performing the other activities of the Agency, pursuant to Article 36(i).

Article 89

Appointment and term of office of the Executive Director

1. The Executive Director shall be recruited as temporary members of staff of the Agency in accordance with Article 2(a) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants.

The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Administrative Board on grounds of merit and documented administrative and managerial skills, as well as relevant competence and experience, from a list of at least three candidates proposed by the Commission, after an open and transparent competition, following the publication of a call for expressions of interest in the Official Journal of the European Union or elsewhere.

The candidate selected by the Administrative Board for the post of Executive Director may be invited at the earliest opportunity to make a statement before the European Parliament and to answer questions from its Members.

The Chairperson of the Administrative Board shall represent the Agency for the purpose of concluding the contracts of the Executive Director.

The Administrative Board shall take its decision to appoint the Executive Director by a two-thirds majority of its members.

2. The term of office of the Executive Director shall be five years. At the end of that term of office, the Commission shall carry out an assessment of the performance of the Executive Director, taking into account the future tasks and challenges facing the Agency.

On the basis of a proposal from the Commission, taking into account the assessment referred to in the first subparagraph, the Administrative Board may extend the term of office of the Executive Director once for a period of up to five years.

Any decision to extend the term of office of the Executive Director shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Administrative Board.

An Executive Director whose term of office has been extended may not thereafter take part in a selection procedure for the same post.

The Administrative Board shall inform the European Parliament of its intention to extend the term of office of the Executive Director. Before the extension, the Executive Director may be invited to make a statement before the relevant committees of the European Parliament and answer Members' questions.

3. The Administrative Board may dismiss the Executive Director, on the basis of a proposal by the Commission or of one third of its members, by means of a decision adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members.

4. The European Parliament and the Council may call upon the Executive Director for an exchange of views before those institutions on the work and prospects of the Agency, including with regard to the multiannual and annual work programmes. That exchange of views shall not touch upon matters relating to the security accreditation activities covered by Chapter II of Title V.

Article 90

Secondment of national experts to the Agency

The Agency may employ national experts from Member States, as well as, pursuant to Article 98(2), national experts from participating third countries and international organisations. These experts shall have security clearance appropriate to the classification of the information they are handling pursuant to Article 42(c). The Staff Regulations and the Conditions of Employments of Other Servants shall not apply to such staff.

CHAPTER VI

Other provisions

Article 91

Privileges and immunities

Protocol No 7 on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Union annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union shall apply to the Agency and its staff.

Article 92

Headquarters agreement and local offices hosting agreements

1. Necessary arrangements concerning the accommodation to be provided for the Agency in the host Member State and the facilities to be made available by that Member State together with the specific rules applicable in the host Member State to the Executive Director, members of the Administrative Board, Agency staff and members of their families shall be laid down in a Headquarters Agreement between the Agency and the Member State concerned where the seat is located, concluded after obtaining the approval of the Administrative Board. Where necessary for the operation of the local office, a hosting agreement between the Agency and the Member State concerned where the office is located shall be concluded after obtaining the approval of the Administrative Board.

2. The Agency's host Member States shall provide the best possible conditions to ensure the smooth and efficient functioning of the Agency, including multilingual, European-oriented schooling and appropriate transport connections

Article 93

Linguistic arrangements for the Agency

1. The provisions laid down in Regulation No 1 of 15 April 1958 determining the languages to be used by the European Economic Community²⁶ shall apply to the Agency.
2. The translation services required for the functioning of the Agency shall be provided by the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union.

Article 94

Policy on access to documents held by the Agency

1. Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 shall apply to documents held by the Agency.
2. The Administrative Board shall adopt arrangements for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.
3. Decisions taken by the Agency in pursuance of Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 may be the subject of a complaint to the Ombudsman or an action before the Court of Justice of the European Union, under Articles 228 and 263 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union respectively.

²⁶ OJ 17, 6.10.1958, p. 385–386.

Article 95

Fraud prevention by the Agency

1. In order to facilitate combating fraud, corruption and other unlawful activities under Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, the Agency shall, within six months from the day it becomes operational, accede to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 25 May 1999 concerning internal investigations by the European Anti-fraud Office (OLAF)²⁷ and adopt appropriate provisions applicable to all employees of the Agency using the template set out in the Annex to that Agreement.
2. The European Court of Auditors shall have the power of audit, on the basis of documents and on the spot, over all grant beneficiaries, contractors and subcontractors who have received Union funds from the Agency.
3. OLAF may carry out investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union in connection with a grant or a contract funded by the Agency, in accordance with the provisions and procedures laid down in Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 and in Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013.
4. Without prejudice to paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, cooperation agreements with third countries and international organisations, contracts, grant agreements and grant decisions of the Agency shall contain provisions expressly empowering the European Court of Auditors and OLAF to conduct such audits and investigations, according to their respective competences.

²⁷ OJ L 136, 31.5.1999, p. 15.

Article 96

Protection of classified or sensitive non-classified information by the Agency

The Agency shall, subject to prior consultation of the Commission, adopt its own security rules equivalent to the Commission's security rules for protecting EUCI and sensitive non-classified information, including rules concerning the exchange, processing and storage of such information, in accordance with Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security on the Commission²⁸ and 2015/444²⁹.

Article 97

Liability of the Agency

1. The contractual liability of the Agency shall be governed by the law applicable to the contract in question.
2. The Court of Justice shall have jurisdiction to give judgment pursuant to any arbitration clause contained in a contract concluded by the Agency.
3. In the event of non-contractual liability, the Agency shall, in accordance with the general principles common to the laws of the Member States, make good any damage caused by its departments or by its servants in the performance of their duties.
4. The Court of Justice shall have jurisdiction in disputes over compensation for the damage referred to in paragraph 3.
5. The personal liability of its servants towards the Agency shall be governed by the provisions laid down in the Staff Regulations or Conditions of Employment of Other Servants applicable to them

²⁸ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security on the Commission (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p.41).

²⁹ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p.53).

Article 98

Cooperation with third countries and international organisations

1. The Agency shall be open to the participation of third countries and international organisations that have entered into international agreements with the Union to this effect.
2. Under the relevant provisions of the agreements referred to in paragraph 1 and Article 42, arrangements shall be developed specifying, in particular, the nature, extent and manner in which the third countries concerned will participate in the work of the Agency, including provisions relating to participation in the initiatives undertaken by the Agency, financial contributions and staff. As regards staff matters, those arrangements shall, in any event, comply with the Staff Regulations. When relevant, they shall also include provisions on the exchange and protection of classified information with third countries and international organisations. Those provisions shall be subject to the Commission's prior approval.
3. The Administrative Board shall adopt a strategy on relations with third countries and international organisations, in the framework of the international agreements referred to in paragraph 1, concerning matters for which the Agency is competent.
4. The Commission shall ensure that, in its relations with third countries and international organisations, the Agency acts within its mandate and the existing institutional framework by concluding an appropriate working arrangement with the Executive Director

Article 99

Conflicts of interest

1. Members of the Administrative Board and of the Security Accreditation Board, the Executive Director, seconded national experts and observers shall make a declaration of commitments and a declaration of interests indicating the absence or existence of any direct or indirect interests which might be considered prejudicial to their independence. Those declarations shall be accurate and complete. They shall be made in writing upon the entry into service of the persons concerned and shall be renewed annually. They shall be updated whenever necessary, in particular in the event of relevant changes in the personal circumstances of the persons concerned.

2. Before any meeting which they are to attend, members of the Administrative Board and of the Security Accreditation Board, the Executive Director, seconded national experts, observers and external experts participating in ad hoc working groups shall accurately and completely declare the absence or existence of any interest which might be considered prejudicial to their independence in relation to any items on the agenda, and shall abstain from participating in the discussion of and voting upon such points.

3. The Administrative Board and the Security Accreditation Board shall lay down, in their rules of procedure, the practical arrangements for the rules on declaration of interest referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 and for the prevention and management of conflicts of interest.

TITLE X

PROGRAMMING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND CONTROL

Article 100

Work programme

The Programme shall be implemented by the work programmes referred to in Article 110 of the Financial Regulation, which shall be specific and fully separate work programmes for each component of the Programme. Work programmes shall set out the actions and associated budget required to meet the objectives of the programme and, where applicable, the overall amount reserved for blending operations.

Those implementing measures shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 107(3).

Article 101

Monitoring and reporting

1. Indicators to report on progress of the Programme towards achieving the general and specific objectives set out in Article 4 are set in the Annex.

2. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 105 concerning amendments to the Annex to review and/or complement the indicators where considered necessary.

3. The performance reporting system shall ensure that data for monitoring programme implementation and results are collected efficiently, effectively, and in a timely manner. To that end, proportionate reporting requirements shall be imposed on recipients of Union funds and, where relevant, Member States.

4. For the purposes of paragraph 1, the recipients of Union funds are obliged to provide appropriate information. The data necessary for the verification of the performance shall be collected in an efficient, effective and timely manner.

Article 102

Evaluation

1. The Commission shall carry out evaluations of the Programme in a timely manner to feed into the decision-making process.

2. By 30 June 2024, and every four years thereafter, the Commission shall evaluate the implementation of the programme.

That evaluation shall cover all the Programme's components and actions. It shall assess the performance of the services provided, the evolution of users' needs and the evolution of available capacities for sharing and pooling, when evaluating the implementation of SSA and Govsatcom, or of data and services offered by competitors, when evaluating the implementation of Galileo, Copernicus and EGNOS. For each component, the evaluation, on the basis of a cost/benefit analysis, shall also assess the impact of those evolutions, including the need for changing the pricing policy or the need for additional space or ground infrastructure.

If necessary, the evaluation shall be accompanied by an appropriate proposal.

3. [...]

4. The Commission shall communicate the conclusions of the evaluations accompanied by its observations, to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

5. The entities involved in the implementation of this Regulation shall provide to the Commission the data and information necessary for the evaluation referred to in the first paragraph.

6. By 30 June 2024, and every four years thereafter, the Commission shall assess the Agency's performance, in relation to its objectives, mandate, and tasks, in accordance with Commission guidelines. The evaluation shall, in particular, address the possible need to modify the mandate of the Agency, and the financial implications of any such modification, and shall be based on a cost/benefit analysis. It shall also address the Agency's policy on conflicts of interest and the independence and autonomy of the Security Accreditation Board. The Commission may also evaluate the Agency's performance to assess the possibility to entrust it with additional tasks, in accordance with Article 30(3). If necessary, the evaluation shall be accompanied by an appropriate proposal.

Where the Commission considers that there are no longer grounds for the Agency to continue pursuing its activities, given its objectives, mandate and tasks, it may propose to amend this Regulation accordingly.

The Commission shall submit a report on the evaluation of the Agency and its conclusions to the European Parliament, the Council, the Administrative Board and the Security Accreditation Board of the Agency. The findings of the evaluation shall be made public.

Article 103

Audits

Audits on the use of the Union contribution carried out by persons or entities, including others than those mandated by the Union institutions or bodies, shall form the basis of the overall assurance pursuant to Article 127 of the Financial Regulation.

Article 104

Personal data and privacy protection

All personal data handled in the context of the tasks and activities provided for in this Regulation, including by the European Union Agency for Space, shall be processed in accordance with the applicable law on personal data protection, in particular Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation No 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council. The Administrative Board shall establish measures for the application of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 by the Agency, including those concerning the appointment of a Data Protection Officer of the Agency. Those measures shall be established after consultation of the European Data Protection Supervisor.

TITLE XI

DELEGATION AND IMPLEMENTING MEASURES

Article 105

Exercise of the delegation

1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.
2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Articles 52 and 101 shall be conferred on the Commission until 31 December 2028.
3. The delegation of power referred to in Articles 52 and 101 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated act already in force.
4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016.

5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.

6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Articles 52 and 101 shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and to the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

Article 106

Urgency procedure

1. Delegated acts adopted under this Article shall enter into force without delay and shall apply as long as no objection is expressed in accordance with paragraph 2. The notification of the act to the European Parliament and to the Council shall state the reasons for the use of the urgency procedure.

2. Either the European Parliament or the Council may object to a delegated act in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 105 (6). In such a case, the Commission shall repeal the act immediately following the notification of the decision to object by the European Parliament or by the Council.

Article 107

Committee procedure

1. The Commission shall be assisted by a committee. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

The Committee shall meet in specific different configurations as follows:

- (a) Galileo and EGNOS;
- (b) Copernicus;

- (c) SSA;
 - (d) Govsatcom;
 - (e) Security configuration: all security aspects of the Programme, without prejudice to the role of the SAB. Representatives of ESA and the Agency may be invited to participate as observers. The European External Action Service shall also be invited to assist³⁰;
 - (f) Horizontal configuration: Strategic overview of the implementation of the programme, coherence across the different components of the programme, cross-cutting measures and budget reallocation as referred to in Article 11.
- 1a. The Programme Committee shall, in accordance with its rules of procedure, set up the "User Forum", as a working group to advise the Programme Committee on user requirements aspects, evolution of the services and user uptake. The User Forum shall aim to guarantee a continuous and effective involvement of users and meet in specific configurations for each component of the programme.
2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
4. Where the Programme committee delivers no opinion on the draft implementing act referred to in Article 34(1) of this Regulation, the Commission shall not adopt the draft implementing act and the third subparagraph of Article 5(4) of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.

³⁰ A declaration of the Council and the Commission on the implementation of Article 107 in respect of the security aspects of the programme should be added to the Regulation and could be drafted as follows: "The Council and the Commission emphasise that, due to the sensitivity of the security aspects of the programme and in accordance with Article 3(4) and Article 6(2) of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, it is particularly important that the chair of the Programme Committee meeting in the Security configuration makes every effort to find solutions which command the widest possible support within the committee or the appeal committee when considering the adoption of draft implementing acts concerning the security aspects of the programme."

5. In accordance with international agreements concluded by the Union, representatives of third countries or international organisations may be invited as observers in the meetings of the Committee under the conditions laid down in the rules of procedure of that Committee, taking into account the security of the Union.

TITLE XII

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 108

Information, communication and publicity

1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin and ensure the visibility of the Union funding (in particular when promoting the actions and their results) by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public.
2. The Commission shall implement information and communication actions relating to the Programme, and its actions and results. Financial resources allocated to the Programme shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, as far as they are related to the objectives referred to in Article 4.
3. The Agency may engage in communication activities on its own initiative within its field of competence. The allocation of resources to communication activities shall not be detrimental to the effective exercise of the tasks referred to in Article 30. Such communication activities shall be carried out in accordance with relevant communication and dissemination plans adopted by the Administrative Board.

Article 109

Repeals

1. Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013 and (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU are repealed with effect from 1 January 2021.
2. References to the repealed acts shall be construed as references to this Regulation.

Article 110

Transitional provisions and continuity of services after 2027

1. This Regulation shall not affect the continuation or modification of the actions concerned, until their closure, under Regulation (EU) No 377/2014, 1285/2013 and 912/2010 and on the basis of Decision No 541/2014/EU, which shall continue to apply to the actions concerned until their closure. In particular, the Consortium established under Article 7 paragraph 3 of Decision 541/2014/EU shall provide SST Services until 3 months after the signature by the Constituting National Entities of the agreement creating the SST partnership provided in Article 57.
2. The financial envelope for the Programme may also cover technical and administrative assistance expenses necessary to ensure the transition between the Programme and the measures adopted under Regulation Nos 377/2014 and 1285/2013 and on the basis of Decision No 541/2014/EU.
3. If necessary, appropriations may be entered in the budget beyond 2027 to cover the expenses necessary to fulfill the objectives provided for in Article 4, to enable the management of actions not completed by the end of the Programme, as well as expenses covering critical operational activities and services provision, including through the Framework Financial Partnership Agreement and contribution agreements.

Article 111

Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

[It shall apply from 1st January 2021.]

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

KEY INDICATORS

Key indicators shall structure the monitoring of the programme performance towards its objectives referred to in Article 4, with a view to minimising administrative burdens and costs.

1. To that end, for annual reporting, data shall be collected as regards the following set of key indicators for which implementation details, like metrics, figures and associated nominal values and thresholds (including quantitative and qualitative cases) according to applicable mission requirements and expected performance, shall be defined in the agreements established with the entrusted entities:

Specific Objective referred to in Article 4(2)(a)

Indicator 1: Accuracy of navigation and timing services provided by Galileo and EGNOS separately

Indicator 2: Availability and continuity of services provided by Galileo and EGNOS separately

Indicator 3: EGNOS services geographical coverage and number of EGNOS procedures published (both APV-I and LPV-200)

Indicator 4: EU user satisfaction with respect to Galileo and EGNOS services

Indicator 5: Share of Galileo and EGNOS enabled receivers in the worldwide and the EU Global Navigation Satellite Systems/ Satellite Based Augmentation System (GNSS/SBAS) receivers market.

Specific Objective referred to in Article 4(2)(b)

Indicator 1: Number of EU users of Copernicus Services, Copernicus data, and Data and Information Access Systems (DIAS) providing, where possible, information such as the type of user, geographical distribution and sector of activity

Indicator 1a: Where applicable, number of activations of Copernicus Services requested and/or served

Indicator 1b: EU User satisfaction with respect to Copernicus Services and DIAS

Indicator 1c: Reliability, availability and continuity of the Copernicus Services and Copernicus data stream

Indicator 2: Number of new information products delivered in the portfolio of each Copernicus Service

Indicator 3: Amount of data generated by the Sentinels

Specific Objective referred to in Article 4(2)(c)

Indicator 1: Number of users of SSA components providing, where possible, information such as the type of user, geographical distribution and sector of activity

Indicator 2: Availability of Services

Specific Objective referred to in Article 4(2)(d)

Indicator 1: Number of EU users of GOVSATCOM providing, where possible, information such as the type of user, geographical distribution and sector of activity

Indicator 2: Availability of Services

Specific Objective referred to in Article 4(2)(e)

Indicator 1: Number of launches for the Programme (including numbers by type of launchers)

Specific Objective referred to in Article 4(2)(f)

Indicator 1: Number and location of space hubs in the Union

Indicator 2: Share of SMEs established in the EU as a proportion of the total value of the contracts relating to the programme

2. The evaluation referred to in Article 102 shall take into account additional elements such as:

- a) Performance of competitors in the areas of navigation and Earth Observation
- b) User uptake of Galileo and EGNOS services
- c) Integrity of EGNOS services
- d) Uptake of Copernicus services by Copernicus core users
- e) Number of Union or Member State policies exploiting or benefiting from Copernicus

- f) Analysis of the autonomy of the SST component and of the level of independence of the EU in this area
 - g) State-of-play of networking for NEO activities
 - h) Assessment of Govsatcom capacities as regards user needs as referred to in Articles 68 and 69
 - i) User satisfaction of the SSA and Govsatcom services
 - j) Share of Ariane and Vega launches in the total market based on publicly available data
 - k) Development of the downstream sector measured, when available, by the number of new companies using EU space data, information and services, jobs created and turnover, by Member State, using Eurostat surveys when available
 - l) Development of the EU Space upstream sector measured, when available, by number of jobs created and turnover by Member State and the global market share of European space industry, using Eurostat surveys when available
-