

**ARTICLE 9:
FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council shall carry out the relevant policies and coordinate the activities of the Parties. The functions of the Council shall include:

- (a) overseeing the implementation of this Agreement;
- (b) the development of the necessary technical, administrative and operational plans for the implementation of the present Agreement;
- (c) the implementation of those provisions of Article 6 requiring Council action;
- (d) the preparation, consideration and adoption of technical specifications for the System space and ground facilities and radiobeacons, as well as the adoption of COSPAS-SARSAT technical and operational documentation;
- (e) ensuring interaction and cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the International Maritime Organization and other international organizations for the purpose of coordinating technical matters;
- (f) the provision of administrative, operational and technical coordination with Ground Segment Providers and User States, including the adoption of procedures for type approval or commissioning of Ground Segment equipment and radiobeacons;
- (g) the assessment of the need for technical and operational enhancements of the System, including those relating to contributions of the Parties and those which would entail contributions by States non-Parties to this Agreement;
- (h) the establishment of mechanisms for exchange of appropriate technical and operational information;
- (i) taking decisions upon matters of joint relations with States non-Parties to this Agreement, as well as international organizations;
- (j) the direction of Secretariat activities;
- (k) the organization and coordination of exercises, trials and studies that are necessary to assess the performance of the System; and
- (l) other matters regarding operation of the System's Space and Ground Segments and radiobeacons that the Council agrees shall fall within its purview.