

**Open Lunar Foundation**  
**Statement under Agenda Item 4 , “General Exchange of Views”**  
**COPUOS Legal Subcommittee, June 5th, 2023**  
**Presented by Dr. Antonino Salmeri**

Thank you Mr. Chair.

On behalf of the Open Lunar Foundation, I would like to begin by thanking and congratulating you for your impeccable leadership of this Honourable Committee during the past two years. We also wish to express our sincere gratitude to the Secretariat for their excellent preparation of this session.

Distinguished Delegates, the Open Lunar Foundation is dedicated to creating stewardship. Just like this Honourable Committee, Open Lunar devotes deep consideration to technical and legal issues alike. A key feature of our work is the discovery of thoughtful ideas and initiatives that can advance our prosperous future on the Moon. We follow this discovery with sustained investment and collaborations. An example of how we turn discovery into action is the Lunar Policy Handbook, a unique guide to the nascent realm of lunar governance. A few months ago, during the last session of the Legal Subcommittee, we presented the LPH and distributed copies to Delegations. Today, everyone interested can download the LPH from its dedicated website.

Distinguished Delegates, this year we are supporting a new international initiative for the creation of a Lunar Policy Platform. The goal of this initiative is to connect lunar stakeholders for the identification of policy priorities and the development of voluntary standards of behaviour for safe and sustainable lunar activities.

The LPP initiative is characterised by three unique features. First, the LPP has a multi-layer structure featuring the participation of governments, space

agencies, companies, international organisations, non-governmental entities, and expert individuals. Second, the LPP operates through innovative asynchronous processes, collecting inputs through bilateral, in-depth and confidential meetings and aggregating those in anonymized Reports for iterative review and institutional endorsement. Third and finally, the LPP has a professional and result-oriented approach producing targeted deliverables. Through innovative Priorities Reports, the LPP will survey lunar stakeholders to identify which policy areas have to be addressed as a matter of priority, such as information sharing, resource prospecting, or proximity operations. Within these priority areas, the LPP will catalyse agreement on voluntary Standards of Behaviour as minimum benchmarks for safety, sustainability and predictability.

Distinguished Delegates, all LPP activities will be conducted to complement and support deliberations within this Honourable Committee through expert inputs on the policy and operational aspects of lunar exploration. At present, the LPP Director is conducting a Pilot demonstration of LPP activities. The goal of this Pilot is to validate the LPP concept by producing its first Lunar Priorities Report to support the identification of key areas to be addressed for safe and sustainable lunar development. This Report will be publicly released at the 6th edition of the Paris Peace Forum in November this year, and will be submitted to the attention of this Honourable Committee in its 2024 cycle. Distinguished Delegates, all States are welcome to participate in the Pilot. Everyone interested is warmly invited to approach us during this session.

Mr. Chair, to conclude, at Open Lunar we employ our resources and expertise to enable a prosperous future on the Moon for the benefit of all life. We invite you to visit our website for more information, and stand ready to work

together towards the peaceful, safe, and sustainable development of the Moon. Many thanks for your kind attention.