



THE HAGUE SPACERESOURCES GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP

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Terms of Reference

- Assess the need for a regulatory framework for space resource activities related to the use of mineral and volatile materials on the Moon and other celestial bodies
- In case of need, lay the groundwork for the definition of such a regulatory framework derived by UN Treaties on Outer Space
- The groundwork required will include the identification and formulation of building blocks for the governance of space resources with possible implementation of a relevant forum for the negotiations
- Following its conclusions the Working Group would like to encourage States to start negotiating an international agreement or non-legally binding instrument to regulate the use of space resources



The Consortium

- Founding partner: Institute of Air and Space Law, Leiden University (NL)
- The other partners:
 - Catholic University of Santos (Brazil)
 - Centre for Resources, Energy and Environmental Law, University of Melbourne (Australia)
 - Indonesian Centre for Air and Space Law, Padjadjaran University (Indonesia)
 - Secure World Foundation (USA)
 - University of Cape Town (South Africa)



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Management

- Chair, Vice Chairs, Members, Observers
- Secretariat (Executive Secretary & Assistant Secretary) embedded in the International Institute of Air and Space Law, Leiden

Members

- Stakeholders from government, industry, IGO, universities, research centres
- They form the operative body of the group
- Limited to ± 20-25 members, covering the globe
- Currently 22 members (from Australia, Brazil, China, France, Italy, India, Indonesia, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, The Netherlands, Nigeria, South Africa, Switzerland, UAE, UK, USA)

Observers

- Professionals & academics directly involved in space resources issues, UNOOSA
- Number not limited, currently 38 (additional nationalities: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Italy, Russia, Serbia)



Deliverables

- Identification and formulation of building blocks for the governance of space resource activities as a basis for negotiations on an international agreement or non-legally binding instrument (e.g. code of conduct)
- Recommendations on the implementation strategy and forum for negotiations

Publications

- Statement of the Netherlands at the 55th Session of UNCOPUOS LSC 2016
 - A/AC.105/C.2/2016/CRP.17
- 1st “Status report” presented at the 67th IAC in Guadalajara, Mexico
 - IAC-16.E7.2.1



Schedule

- The Working Group started its activities in October 2015 and will complete them by end 2017
- 1st face-to-face Meeting: 18/19 April 2016, Leiden
- 2nd face-to-face Meeting: 7/8 November 2016, Leiden
- 3rd face-to-face Meeting: 10-12 April 2017 in Leiden
- 4th meeting: TBD





Building Blocks

The Building Blocks defined and under discussion are the following:

1. Objective of international legal framework
2. Definition of key terms
3. Scope of international legal framework
4. Principles of international legal framework
5. Exercise of jurisdiction over space resource activities
6. Access to space resources
7. Utilization of space resources
8. Safety of space resource activities
9. Prevention and abatement of harmful impacts of outer space activities



Building Blocks (cont'd)

10. Sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of space resources
11. Exchange of information under international legal framework
12. Provision of assistance in case of distress
13. Liability in case of damage
14. Monitoring and inspection of space resource activities
15. Compliance with and enforcement of international legal framework
16. Institutional arrangements of international legal framework
17. Settlement of disputes
18. Final clauses of international legal framework



Next steps

- At the next face-to-face meeting, discussions will start on a suitable forum for multilateral negotiations
- Consortium partners (e.g Indonesia, Australia) will organize events to discuss the benefits of space resources for developing countries
- A second “status report” will be presented at the IISL Colloquium at the 68th IAC in Adelaide; this will contain details about the building blocks and discussions on the appropriate forum
- Other presentations are foreseen, e.g. IAA Symposium on the Future of Space Exploration, Turin, June 2017



Outreach

- The Working Group operates in a transparent and inclusive way
- Public events and presentations are planned to explain the status of activities and findings
- **Web:** www.iiasl.aero – follow the link ‘The Hague Space Resources Governance Working Group’
- **Twitter:** @SpaceResourceWG
- **Facebook:** page will soon be created
- **Further information:** Dimitra Stefoudi, Assistant Secretary
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Thank you



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