DEFINING HERITAGE IN THE SPACE AGE

For All Moonkind

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MEMORIALIZING HUMAN HERITAGE IN OUTER SPACE

- The objective of For All Moonkind is to create guidelines for the preservation and memorialization of human heritage in Outer Space which is recognized for its outstanding universal value.

- This resolve is consistent with the achievements of international conventions, multi- and bilateral treaties, as well as national laws that have steadily for over a century recognized a greater diversity of cultural heritage on Earth as a particularly important element in the history of peoples, nations, and their relations with each other.

- For All Moonkind works collectively with its diverse network of experts from around the world to structure a similar framework of rules that would expand recognition of humanity’s outstanding achievements to those it has realized in Outer Space, as well as ensure that they too can be preserved and or memorialized as an integral part of the heritage of humanity.
Evident in the evolving concept of heritage, as well as the implementation of numerous international treaties and proliferation of domestic laws to protect it, we have come to recognize its importance, both in its individual and collective right. We take pride in our distinct cultures that we celebrate and draw upon for unity and strength particularly when confronted with challenges, and as it is, especially so in the most devastating of cases when it was only with this heritage with which we were left to persevere.

This is perhaps why in the last century the framework to preserve cultural heritage gained increased importance following the turmoil of war, collapsed socio-economic and political regimes, amidst calls for self-determination and even the dire consequences of natural disasters that reached biblical proportions.
CONSIDERATIONS FOR EXPANDING THE HERITAGE FRAMEWORK

■ The international heritage framework that applies to human heritage on Earth is not *per se* applicable to heritage in Outer Space. Nevertheless, those rules inform:

■ Categories of Heritage that Could be Considered for Recognition
  - Representing that of outstanding universal value and evidencing an evolving appreciation for forms of human achievement and expression consistent with the advancement of civilization and technology:
    ■ designated sites and structures
    ■ tangible, movable objects
    ■ immovable constructed, natural and mixed sites
    ■ intangible heritage
CONSIDERATIONS FOR EXPANDING THE HERITAGE FRAMEWORK

- The international heritage framework that applies to human heritage on Earth is not applicable to heritage in Outer Space. Nevertheless, those rules inform:

- Possible Methods of Preservation
  - prohibition of damage/destruction
  - inventory of significant objects and sites
  - in-situ protection
  - requirements to report, consult and cooperate in protection efforts
  - documenting and recording of intangible heritage
CONSIDERATIONS FOR EXPANDING THE HERITAGE FRAMEWORK

- The international heritage framework that applies to human heritage on Earth is not applicable to heritage in Outer Space. Nevertheless, those rules inform:

- Possible Framework Tenets
  - definition of human heritage in Outer Space of outstanding universal value;
  - nomination and ascription procedure;
  - positive and negative obligations that effect preservation and memorialization;
  - an institutional organ to support a legal and administrative framework.
Elements of human heritage that may dictate preservation and memorialization could include human achievements and expressions:

- of outstanding value from the point of view of history, conservation, ethnology, anthropology, technology or other science;
- that are among humanity's most significant; and
- that occurred or subsist in Outer Space, including on the Moon and other celestial bodies.
CHALLENGES SURROUNDING A FRAMEWORK FOR HUMAN HERITAGE IN OUTER SPACE

- Challenges inherent to a regime of human heritage in Outer Space:
  - *identifying heritage prospectively rather than posteriorly*
  - *practical considerations, such as awareness, distance, accessibility, monitoring/enforcement;*
  - *foreseeing rules for protection without knowing*
    - what that heritage might one day be, or
    - practically how to protect it;
  - *navigating jurisdictional voids;*
  - *issues of sovereignty;*
  - *achieving consensus amongst States; and*
  - *private property considerations.*
IMPORTANCE OF ENDEAVORING TO PRESERVE AND MEMORIALIZE HUMAN HERITAGE IN OUTER SPACE

Despite challenges in developing a framework of rules to preserve and memorialize human heritage of outstanding value in Outer Space, efforts to do so nonetheless:

- *enhance the number and quality of discussions needed to meet the increasing and evolving nature of human activity in Outer Space;*
- *leverage the expertise and collaboration of a global network of professionals in the public, private and academic sectors;*
- *raise awareness and stimulate initiatives to protect, preserve and document human heritage before it is damaged, destroyed, or its significance lost.*
FURTHERING THE WORK OF FOR ALL MOONKIND

In order to improve the quality and success of its work, For all Moonkind invites questions, comments and suggestions regarding this presentation.

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Thank You