Germany, Item 8

UNCOPUOS Legal Subcommittee 62<sup>st</sup> Session 20 – 30 March 2023, Vienna

**Statement by Germany** 

Agenda item 8 - Capacity-building in space law

Honorable Madam Chair, distinguished delegates,

Germany attaches great importance to supporting this Committee and UNOOSA in their efforts to raise awareness and increase understanding of the role of space activities for modern society as well as the international instruments of space law.

In this regard we would like to particularly express our appreciation for the "Space Law for New Space Actors" project, which Germany actively supported last year at the Technical Advisory Mission in December.

Of course, we also continue to actively participate in and contribute to international conferences and webinars as important vehicles for multilateral dialogue and **common understandings of the international legal regime for outer space activities**.

Commentaries, guidance documents and other education tools are central to promote the understanding and the debate around space law. Their availability in a broad variety of languages is key. In this regard, we would like to announce that Arabic and Spanish versions of the "Cologne Commentary on Space Law" are now available and will be distributed to the delegations.

With these translations, the project coordinated and supported by Germany through the Institute of Air Law, Space Law and Cyber Law in Cologne continues to realize important contributions to disseminate specialist information and sound interpretations of space law internationally and to further the understanding of the principles of international space law.

Madam Chair, distinguished delegates,

The German delegation can report about excellent space related study programs and we strongly promote the enrolment of students from abroad as well as international exchange programs.

In preparation of this session, we provided an update to the "Directory of education opportunities in Space Law" to inform interested aspiring space lawyers about the range of studies offered in Germany. We would like to draw particular attention to the newly added entry of the Leuphana University of Lüneburg, which offers space law seminars, including those preparing students for the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition as well as the possibility of submitting a thesis in this particular field of law in the bachelor, master or doctoral study programs.

Promoting and educating the new generation of space lawyers and policy advisers is crucial to ensure the further development of the *corpus juris spatialis*, and – of course – the future of our work in this committee. We are happy to contribute to that endeavor. Thus, we have also actively supported the range of activities offered by the European Centre for Space Law, ECSL, such as the Model UNCOPUOS in cooperation with the Space Generation Advisory Council, SGAC, the Manfred Lachs Moot Court.

We are looking forward to continuing capacity building efforts at national and international level and are pleased to contribute to joint efforts in this respect.

Thank you for your kind attention.