

29 January 2024

English only

**Committee on the Peaceful
Uses of Outer Space**
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Sixty-first session
Vienna, 29 January - 9 February 2024

**Request for observer status with the United Nations
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: application
of the Global Satellite Operators Association (GSOA)**

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its thirty-third session, in 1990, the Committee considered guidelines for granting observer status with the Committee to international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The possible criteria suggested by the Outer Space Affairs Division to the Committee at that time were the following:

(a) As part of its programme, the organization should be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

(b) The aims and purposes of the organization should be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(c) The organization should be a recognized international organization and should have an established headquarters, an executive officer, and a constitution, a copy of which is deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In the case of a non-governmental organization, it should be a non-profit organization.

2. Having considered the matter, the Committee at its thirty-third session, agreed, that in the future non-governmental organizations which request observer status with the Committee should have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and should, as part of their programmes, be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Committee

3. At its fifty-third session, in 2010, the Committee agreed that observer status would be granted to non-governmental organizations on a provisional basis, for a period of three years, pending information on the status of their application for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The Committee also agreed



that the provisional observer status could be extended for an additional year, if necessary. The Committee further agreed that it would grant permanent observer status to such non-governmental organizations upon confirmation of their consultative status with the Council.

4. While the Committee's decision did not specifically include the elements referred to in 1 (c) above, it has been the practice of the committee, since its decision in 1990, to have before it the constitution or statutes of the organization or entity requesting observer status.

5. On 22 January 2024, the Office for Outer Space Affairs received an application for observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space from GSOA. The following related correspondence received from GSOA is attached to this document:

- (a) Letter from GSOA conveying the intention to become a permanent observer of the Committee;
 - (b) Articles of Association;
 - (c) Membership Information;
 - (d) VAT Status; and
 - (e) VAT Validation.
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22 January 2024

Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini
Director
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
Vienna International Centre
Wagramerstrasse 5 A-1220
Vienna
Austria

Dear Ms Holla-Maini,

On behalf of the Global Satellite Operators Association (GSOA), I am writing to formally apply for the status of Permanent Observer Organisation of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space (COPUOS).

Our vision is to help policymakers improve the state of the world through the use of satellite technology to continuously bridging digital, education, health, social, gender and economic divides across diverse geographies and across mature and developing economies.

GSOA was founded in 2002 as ESOA (European Satellite Operators Association) to be the voice of the European satellite industry and became the Global Satellite Operators Association in 2022. Today it represents 70 members from the broader satellite industry ecosystem, with local and global GEO, MEO and LEO operators, launchers, manufacturers, ground segment players, ranging from newer entrants to long-time established players. This growth gives our association a full representation of the rich ecosystem in which the satellite industry operates today and truly reflects the incredible phase of growth and innovation the industry is going through.

GSOA is the only global non-profit association of the entire satellite ecosystem that brings members together and serves as the premier platform for worldwide collaboration, taking the lead in addressing global challenges and opportunities and providing a unified voice for the satellite industry. The association is recognised as the representative body and subject matter expert by governmental, international and regional organisations, as well as national administrations. It provides a platform for industry collaboration on matters related to policy, standard and technology in the following areas:

- Spectrum and World Radio Conference related issues;
- Standards and Non-Terrestrial and Terrestrial Networks integration, including 5G & 6G, Internet of Things, Satellite Direct-to-Device;
- Space sustainability: cooperation amongst industry on norms and best practices;
- Connectivity and bridging the digital divide;
- Broader contribution of satellite to socio-economic development.

Through GSOA, the satellite industry contributes to activities and initiatives in all regions of the world, engaging with national regulators and governments and collaborating with international and regional organisations such as the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the World Economic Forum, the European Commission and other regional governmental organisations, as well as standards bodies such as 3GPP and other organisations, as required, in order to achieve the objectives of sustainable and meaningful connectivity.

GSOA has been playing an increasing critical role as the satellite communications industry is going through a phase of unprecedented growth and innovation. This is the result of a multitude of new

satcom services being launched in different orbital altitudes providing more affordable, efficient, reliable and secure connectivity. Combined with the emergence of new terrestrial antennas and support for steerable spot beams using multiple frequency bands, these advances have greatly increased the flexibility of satellite systems in terms of geographic coverage and spectrum usage.

These developments are enabling satellite operators to offer 5G ecosystem services and cloud connectivity, helping bridge the digital divide everywhere, providing connectivity to aircraft, ships, trains and cars, M2M/IoT and dedicated connectivity platforms for civilian and military governments, as well as international organizations.

Our role as an Association is to ensure that we bring our members together to find common grounds and present a united front on critical issues that will help us deliver together on our common goals of meaningful and inclusive connectivity. But also, to ensure that the interests of the satellite industry are safeguarded so that we can continue to innovate and invest, whilst continuing to serve the best interest of users and preserving space sustainability, as we continue to grow, and with the aim of enabling the world to maximise the use of, access to, and benefits from, space resources.

In addition, we support the importance of raising awareness about the satellite communications' benefits and work in collaboration with educational organisations to propose technical capacity building to regulators and policy certifications. These trainings have proved to be critical in particular for preparedness in case of emergency situations.

We believe that the way forward is to ensure a collaborative approach between all stakeholders of the space and satellite ecosystem, from public and private sector, and we support continued global partnerships, collaboration and information sharing to create new opportunities and address global challenges.

The role of the Office for Outer Space Affairs is key to fostering the innovation of space and the sustainable use of resources for the benefit of all. We look forward to working with COPUOS and having a strong collaboration with the objective of maximizing the benefits of space in earth and ensuring a sustainable growth of the ecosystem.

Please, also note that we have initiated the process to secure consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and aim to accomplish it as soon as possible.

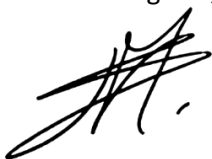
I am herewith attaching our supporting documents to the application as follows:

1. Statutes of Association (English translation)
2. Description document of the internal organisation of the association.

We remain at your disposal to provide any further information you may require.

We hope that you will consider GSOA's application favourably and look forward to hearing back at the earliest opportunity.

With best regards,



Isabelle Mauro
Director General, GSOA

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF GLOBAL SATELLITE OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION (Asbl)

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ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF GLOBAL SATELLITE OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER I – DENOMINATION, DURATION AND REGISTERED OFFICE

Article 1 – Name, Duration

The name of the Association is "Global Satellite Operators Association" (hereinafter, the "Association"), in abridged form "GSOA".

The Association is set up for an indefinite term.

Article 2 – Registered office

The registered office of the Association is established in the Region of Brussels-Capital, Belgium and in the judicial division of Brussels.

It may be transferred to any other place in the Brussels-Capital or the French-speaking Region by published decision of the Board of Directors, without this leading to a change in the language of the Articles of Association.

The registered office of the Association is currently established at Avenue Marnix, 17, 1000 Brussels-Capital, Belgium.

CHAPTER II – PURPOSE

Article 3 - Purpose

The purpose of the Association is to foster and maintain a proper political, industrial, trade and regulatory environment necessary to ensure the global availability of satellite delivered services.

The Association may accomplish all acts related directly or indirectly to its purpose and issue position papers, press releases, participate in events and engage in all activities necessary to achieve its objectives.

The Association pursues a disinterested aim in the context of the exercise of one or more specific activities which constitute its object. The Association may not distribute or procure directly or indirectly any pecuniary advantage to its founders, members, directors or any other person except for the disinterested purpose determined by the Articles of Association. Any transaction violating this prohibition is void.

CHAPTER III – COMPOSITION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 4 – Composition

The Association is composed of (i) Full Members and (ii) Associate Members, together hereinafter defined as "Members".

The Full Members include members who have signed the Articles of Association at the time of establishment and those who are admitted to the Association after its creation in accordance with the criteria contained herein. Associate Members include those members who are admitted to the Association in accordance with the criteria contained herein.

A members' list has also been lodged with the clerk of the court.

The number of Members of the Association is unlimited. The number of Full Members cannot be lower than three.

Article 5 - Rights and Obligations of Members

The Members have to comply with the provisions of the Article of Association, the Internal Rules as well as with the decisions taken on behalf of the Association.

Full Members have the right to attend the General Assembly and to vote, provided that payment of their annual subscription fee has been duly received. Associate Members can attend the General Assembly but do not have the right to vote.

Full Members may consider that some matters are sensitive or outside the scope of the Association and should not be treated at all.

All members have the right to appoint one or more representatives to work on the different working groups as established in the Internal Rules.

Region-sensitive or specific matters can be treated with a reduced number of members on a case-by-case basis at the consideration of the Director General in consultation with the Chair or the members concerned and may be the result of a request from an external institution or body.

CHAPTER IV – ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Article 6 - Admission of Full Members

The admission of Full Members shall be approved by the Board of Directors. A candidate wishing to become a Full Member of the Association should submit a written request to that effect to the Chair of the Board of Directors.

Any company may be admitted as Full Member if:

- i) It adheres to the objectives and supports the activities of the Association, and
- ii) It owns and operates one or more communication satellites (satellite operator); or
- iii) It has revenues at the time of the application and plans to launch one or more satellites in the following 12 months.

The Board of Directors may also appoint Full Members that do not comply with the above conditions, provided all Full Members attending the General Assembly where this item is on the agenda, approve it.

If the above conditions are met, the Board of Directors resolves validly on the application by a two thirds majority of the votes. The decision of the Board of Directors is final and does not have to be justified.

Article 7 - Admission of Associate Members

The admission of Associate Members shall be approved by the Board of Directors. A candidate wishing to become an Associate Member of the Association should submit a written request to that effect to the Chair of the Board of Directors.

Any legal person may be admitted as Associate Member if:

- i) It carries on satellite-related activities; and
- ii) It adheres to the objectives and supports the activities of the Association; and
- iii) It is supported by at least one Full Member; and
- iv) It does not operate one or more satellites (so falling within the definition of a full member)

Exceptionally, satellite operators who are fully owned by an existing Full Member at the time of admission may elect to apply for associate membership.

The Board of Directors may also appoint Associate Members that do not comply with the above conditions, provided all Full Members attending the General Assembly where this item is on the agenda, approve it.

If the above conditions are met, the Board of Directors resolves validly on the application by a two thirds majority of the votes. The decision of the Board of Directors is final and does not need to be justified.

CHAPTER V – EXCLUSION

Article 8 - Grounds for exclusion

Upon proposal of the Board of Directors, the General Assembly may exclude from the Association any Member:

- i) which adopts behaviour detrimental to the achievement of the purposes of the Association;
- ii) which commits a material breach of its obligations;
- iii) which no longer meets the conditions for its admission and/ or observes the purpose of the Association.

Article 9 - Exclusion procedure

The Board of Directors informs by registered mail the Member whose exclusion is considered at least one month before the General Assembly at which the matter is to be discussed. The Member whose exclusion is considered has the right to submit its defence to the General Assembly, either in writing before it convenes to decide on the exclusion, or orally during the General Assembly.

The General Assembly decides on the exclusion of the Member from the Association pursuant to Article 17. The Member whose exclusion is considered cannot take part in the vote on its exclusion and is not included for the purpose of the quorum. The decision of the General Assembly on the exclusion of the Member is final and does not have to be justified. The decision is notified to the Member in a certified copy by registered mail. The exclusion is effective as from the date indicated in the notification.

Article 10 - Suspension

The Board of Directors may suspend a Member on the grounds provided for in Article 8 or on any other grounds. The decision of the Board of Directors to suspend a Member is notified to the Member in a certified copy by registered mail. The suspension is effective as from the date indicated in the notification. When it has suspended a Member of the Association, the Board of Directors convenes the General Assembly which may decide to uphold the suspension adopted.

The suspended Member has the right to submit its defence to the General Assembly, either in writing before it is convened to decide on the upholding of the suspension, or orally during the meeting of the General Assembly. The decision of the General Assembly on the upholding of the suspension of a Member is final and does not have to be justified. The decision is notified to the Member in a certified copy by registered mail.

Article 11 - Resignation

Any Member of the Association is entitled to resign at any time by giving an advance written notice addressing its resignation by registered mail to the Board of Directors. The notice of resignation must be received by the Board of Directors three months before the end of the Association's fiscal year (by 30 September). The resignation shall become effective at the end of the fiscal year.

When a Member refuses to pay its subscriptions fees, the Board of Directors may consider that such a refusal is equivalent to the Member's resignation.

If a Member fails to respect the notice period, they shall pay an amount corresponding to six months of their annual fee.

Any Member who ceases to belong to the Association forfeits all rights accruing to the Members.

CHAPTER VI – SUBSCRIPTIONS

Article 12 - Subscription Fees

Members shall pay an annual subscription fee to the Association based on their group consolidated revenue. The amount shall be determined by the Board of Directors in accordance with the Internal Rules of the Association as they may be adopted from time to time.

Those Members excluded, suspended or who may have resigned must pay the full subscription for the year concerned in which the exclusion, the suspension or the resignation has occurred.

The maximum amount of membership fees that can be charged to members is 200.000 euros.

CHAPTER VII – THE GOVERNING BODIES

Article 13 - Governing bodies

The governing bodies of the Association are the:

- General Assembly, and the
- Board of Directors.

In addition, a Director General is appointed to assist the Board of Directors in the execution of its duties.

A treasurer is also appointed by the Board of Directors; he is in charge of the administration of the financial resources of the Association.

In addition, the Board of Directors shall set up a Supervisory Board and determine Internal Rules binding upon the Association setting forth the internal decision-making mechanisms to which it must comply.

CHAPTER VIII – GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 14 - Composition and powers

Without prejudice of Article 9, the General Assembly is composed of the Full Members represented by the Chief Executive Officer. The General Assembly has the powers expressly given to it by the law and the present Articles of Association.

The General Assembly is empowered to:

- i) Approve the annual working programme of the Association;
- ii) Approve the budget and the accounts;
- iii) Appoint and dismiss the directors;
- iv) Appoint and dismiss the auditor(s) and the liquidator(s);
- v) Release the directors and the auditor(s);
- vi) Modify the Articles of Association;
- vii) Determine, if necessary, the remuneration of the directors, the treasurer, the Director General and the auditors;
- viii) Exclude a Member from the Association according to Articles 8 and 9;
- ix) Uphold or lift the suspension of a Member;
- x) Pronounce the dissolution of the Association;
- xi) Determine the appropriation of the benefit in case of dissolution;
- xii) Determine any financial conditions relating to the end of mandates of the Board of Directors members;
- xiii) Determine any transformation into an international non-profit organisation;
- xiv) Determine the restructuring of the association.

Article 15 – Sessions and Convocation

Every year, the General Assembly holds an ordinary session at the latest in the course of the month of June. The Association can hold an extraordinary assembly at any time on the decision of the Board of Directors or at the written request of at least a fifth of the Full Members. General and Extraordinary Assemblies may be held by conferences calls and/or videoconferences.

The General Assembly is convened by the Chair of the Board of Directors fifteen days in advance by electronic mail signed and sent by the Director General. The convocation notice mentions the date, the time and the place where the General Assembly will be held, as well as the agenda.

Any proposal received at least ten days in advance and signed by a Full Member is put on the agenda. Any proposal received at least ten days in advance by an Associate Member and which is supported by one third of the Full Members is put on the Agenda.

Article 16 - Right to vote

Full Members have different rights to vote at the General Assembly depending on the level of their annual subscription fee and as specified in the Internal Rules.

Article 17 – Quorum and Decisions

Section A : General Meeting

Without prejudice to the exceptions provided for by the law or the present Articles of Association, the General Assembly validly deliberates only if a quorum of two thirds of the Full Members is present or represented by proxy given to another Full member. If such quorum is not met, another General Assembly is convened with an identical agenda. It shall be valid whatever the number of Full Members present or represented.

Without prejudice to the exceptions provided for by the law or the present Articles of Association, the decisions of the General Assembly are taken by the majority of two thirds of the votes of the Full Members present or represented.

Without prejudice to the exceptions provided for by the law, the present Articles of Association, or the decisions contained in section B, the General Assembly may validly deliberate on all other matters not mentioned on the agenda **if all the Full Members are present or represented and so agree.**

Section B : Extraordinary General Meeting

For the following decisions, the following quorums must be respected:

a) For decisions on the modification of the Articles of Association, the Extraordinary General Assembly validly deliberates only if a quorum of two thirds of the Full Members is present or represented by proxy given to another Full member. If such quorum is not met, another Extraordinary General Assembly is convened with an identical agenda. It shall be valid whatever the number of Full Members present or represented.

The decision on the modification of the Articles of Association are taken by the majority of two thirds of the votes of the Full Members present or represented.

b) For decisions on the exclusion and suspension of a Member, the Extraordinary General Assembly validly deliberates only if a quorum of two thirds of the Full Members is present or represented by proxy given to another Full member. If such quorum is not met, another Extraordinary General Assembly is convened with an identical agenda. It shall be valid whatever the number of Full Members present or represented.

The exclusion and suspension of a Member, which requires a consensus between all those Full Members present or represented at the General Assembly.

c) For decisions on the dissolution of the Association or change in the purpose of the disinterested purpose, the Extraordinary General Assembly validly deliberates only if a quorum of two thirds of the Full Members is present or represented by proxy given to another Full member. If such quorum is not met, another Extraordinary General Assembly is convened with an identical agenda. It shall be valid whatever the number of Full Members present or represented.

The decision on the dissolution of the Association or change in the purpose of the disinterested purpose are taken by the majority of 4/5 majority of the votes of the Full Members present or represented.

The decisions contained in this section are all matters which must be mentioned on the agenda.

Article 18 - Minutes

The decisions of the General Assembly are kept in the minutes of the meeting signed by the Chair of the Board of Directors as appointed at each meeting and one Full Member. Minutes of the meetings of the General Assembly are kept in a register kept at the registered office.

CHAPTER IX – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article 19 – Composition, Nomination and Dismissal

The Association is administered by a Board of Directors made up as a minimum of the Chair, two Vice-Chairs and the Treasurer.

Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, the directors execute their functions free of charge. Any member of the Board of Directors may be dismissed by the General Assembly with a majority of two thirds of the votes, provided that two thirds of the Full Members are present or represented.

Article 20 - Chair and Vice-Chairs

The Board of Directors elects by majority vote a Chair and at least two Vice-Chairs from among its members. In case of impediment or unavailability of the Chair, his functions will be carried out by a Vice-Chair. The Chair may delegate his functions to the first or second Vice-Chair.

Article 21- Term of mandate of the Board of Directors

The term of the Chair and the Vice-Chairs of the Board of Directors is for two years.

The other members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed for an indefinite term.

Article 22- Powers

The members of the Board of Directors have the power to administrate and manage the Association. Excluded from their competence are only the acts reserved to the General Assembly by the law or the Articles of Association or explicitly reserved by Internal Rules of the Association, as may be amended from time to time.

The Board of Directors is empowered to:

- i) Admit or refuse a new Full Member;
- ii) Admit or refuse an Associate Member;
- iii) Transfer the registered office of the Association;
- iv) Determine and approve the annual subscription fees;
- v) Propose to the General Assembly the exclusion of a Member;
- vi) Temporarily suspend or lift the suspension of a Member;
- vii) Receive the resignation of a Member;
- viii) Appoint and dismiss the Director General and sign the contract for the Director General's services;
- ix) Draft and propose to the General Assembly the modifications to the Articles of Association;
- x) Execute tasks it is entrusted with by the General Assembly;
- xi) Submit to the General Assembly for approval the annual accounts of the elapsed year, as well as the budget for the following year.

Article 23 - Decisions

The Board of Directors validly deliberates only if a quorum of two thirds of its members is present or represented.

Unless otherwise provided for by the law, the present Articles of Association or the Internal Rules of the Association as adopted from time to time, the decisions of the Board of Directors are taken by the simple majority of the votes of the directors present or represented. In case of a split of votes, the Chair has a casting vote.

The meeting of Board of Directors may be replaced by signing of minutes by all members of the Board of Directors.

Article 24- Delegation and signature

The Board of Directors delegates to the Director General the signature of acts that are part of the daily management of the Association, as well as any other specific functions, including representation in legal proceedings, as the Board of Directors may delegate from time to time.

The acts which commit the Association, other than those within the competence of the Director General, are signed, save express delegation of the Board of Directors, by the Chair and one Vice-Chair, or by any other person to which the Board of Directors may delegate specific functions.

The Board of Directors delegates to the Treasurer the management of the financial resources of the Association.

CHAPTER X – ACCOUNTS AND BUDGET

Article 25 - Fiscal year

The fiscal year begins on 1 January and ends on 31 December.

Article 26 - Annual accounts

The Board of Directors annually submits to the General Assembly, for approval, the annual accounts of the elapsed year, as well as the budget for the following year at latest six months after the date of the closing of the fiscal year.

Article 27 - Examination of the annual accounts

The control of the financial situation of the association is entrusted to a registered auditor designated by the General Assembly among the members of the Belgian Institute of Registered Auditors (IRE-IBR) for a three-year term. The fees of the registered auditors are set by the General Assembly.

However, in the event that the Association does not exceed the threshold provided for in article 1:28 of the Belgian Code on Companies and Associations, general assembly can decide not to appoint a registered auditor.

In such case, the treasurer of the association is considered as having all the powers of investigation and control in the name of the members of the association. In this role, the treasurer can be assisted under his responsibility by a member of the Institute of Registered Auditors. The appointed registered auditor must be independent, not acting as statutory auditor and shall be retained under contract.

The Board of directors will respond to all questions raised by that person in the context of the contractual audit and in this context will provide access to the books, correspondence, minutes and all supporting documentation relevant to the accounts of the Association.

CHAPTER XI – DISSOLUTION

Article 28 - Procedure

The General Assembly can pronounce the dissolution of the Association only in accordance with the procedure and in compliance with the conditions applicable to the

modifications of the purpose of the Association. In case of dissolution of the Association, the General Assembly determines the appropriation of the benefit. The assets of the liquidation, if any, shall be transferred to a non-profit organisation. The appropriation of the benefit and fact of dissolution is published in the annexes to *Moniteur belge*.

CHAPTER XII – INTERNAL RULES

Article 29- Internal Rules of the association

The last version of the Internal rules of the association dates from September 2022.

GSOA, the Global Satellite Operators Association, is the only global non-profit association of the entire satellite ecosystem that brings members together and serves as the premier platform for worldwide collaboration. As the only CEO-driven satellite association in the world, it takes the lead in addressing global challenges, seizing opportunities, and providing a unified voice for the satellite industry.

GSOA is recognised as the representative body and subject matter expert for satellite operators by international, regional, and national organisations on topics such as spectrum, 5G, 6G, Digital Divide, space sustainability and the broader contribution of satellite to socio-economic development.

Leadership

The Board of Directors is comprised of the Chief Executives of all satellite operator members, who set the strategy and priorities of the Association. An effective Secretariat reporting directly to the Board drives visibility and high-level advocacy with external stakeholders and coordinates the Working Groups. The Operating Committee made of Senior Representatives and the Director General drives key actions and advises the Secretariat.

GSOA activities & partners

GSOA acts as the global voice of the satellite industry to promote common interests at national, regional, and global levels by:

- ✓ **Engaging in advocacy** around spectrum, regulatory and industrial policy to create favourable frameworks for the provision of satellite services;
- ✓ **Promoting innovation** and investment in satellite technology and services;
- ✓ **Driving recognition** of the socio-economic benefits of satellites;
- ✓ **Raising awareness of technical matters**, operational best practices, and quality standards; and
- ✓ **Promoting the industry** by conducting and sponsoring capacity-building workshops, events and campaigns around satellite communications on relevant topics.

Working Groups (WGs)

GSOA has different working groups that ensure representation of member interests on all continents through regional coordination. Each group is consensus-based, output-driven, and led by a Chair and two Co-Chairs.

International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

WG: The focus is on preparatory work for World Radio Conferences (WRCs), implementing their outcomes and technical studies on compatibility between satellite and other services.

Network & Services WG: Promotion and fostering a better understanding of the satellite communications industry with attention to issues of concern, such as cyber security, space policy, and space sustainability.

Regulatory WG: Engagement with the international and regional bodies, working on regulatory matters concerning spectrum, licensing, market access, electronic communications frameworks and any other issues that may affect satellite services.

Standards WG: GSOA is the “Market Representation Partner” for the satellite sector in 3GPP where 5G standards are set. 3GPP works on numerous items concerning NTN (non-terrestrial networks) and the Standards WG coordinates member positions and ensures that GSOA gives political weight to drive forward.

Technology WG: Evaluation and promotions remit has a few principal facets for both ground and space segment of the satellite ecosystem. One of the core initiatives is the Mutual Recognition Arrangement Working Group (MRA-WG), a consensus-based framework to improve the efficiency of satellite operators’ terminals type-approval procedures.

GSOA implements its mission contributing to initiatives and activities at local, regional, and global level and by engaging with national regulators and governments, standards- setting organisations such as 3GPP and regional bodies such as European Commission, ATU, CEPT, ASMG, RCC, CITELE and APT.

Through **GSOA** the satellite industry is invited to participate in activities in all world regions, collaborating with the International Telecommunications Union, the World Economic Forum, and the United Nations as well as with other sectors as required to achieve connectivity objectives.

GSOA Membership

Membership of GSOA gives you an opportunity to:

- ✓ **Shape the future** of the satellite communications industry and the frameworks in which it operates;
- ✓ **Work together** with the highest level of expertise to defend and protect the policy and regulatory needs of the industry;
- ✓ **Access training opportunities** and get discounts for GVF Training, the established global standard for technical satellite communications skills, and Space Business Qualified (SBQ), non-technical training tailored to provide an understanding of the business of space today and tomorrow;
- ✓ **Participate and speak** at webinars and events worldwide on the most relevant topics;
- ✓ **Benefit from free access** or discounts to different events in all regions;
- ✓ **Promote your projects**, use cases, best practices, and overall business through GSOA's extensive network.

Full Members:

Satellite operators can join at the tier level that is defined on their annual turnover. This level provides full benefits of all activities, participation in Working Groups, a seat on the Board of Directors and voting power.

Note: GSOA's Board may consider requests from operators that are expected to launch within a year.

| Tier 1 | Tier 2 | Tier 3 | Tier 4 | Tier 5 |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| above €600m | between €300m and €600m | between €100m and €300m | between €20m and €100m | below €20m |

Associate Members:

All other companies operating in the satellite industry and supporting the **GSOA** objectives can join. This level provides full benefits of all activities and participation in Working Groups, except a seat on the Board.

| Associate A | Associate B |
|-------------|-------------|
| above €400m | below €400m |

Contact GSOA at info@gsoasatellite.com to become a member.

VAT Admin. Letter (confirming 40% VAT re-claim)

MINISTERE DES FINANCES

1050 Bruxelles, le 24 juillet 2003



Administration de la fiscalité
des entreprises et des revenus

Contrôle TVA Ixelles 1/2
Avenue Louise, 233-245
1050 Bruxelles.

Tél. 02/641.04.04
Fax. 02/641/04.14

Dossier traité par C. Houet, inspecteur
ppl a.i.

ASBLI ESOA
Place du Champs de Mars, 5
1050 Bruxelles
C/O M. DE JONGHE

Concerne : votre accord du 22 juillet 2003 – prorata spécial de déduction

Cher Monsieur DE JONGHE,

En annexe, vous trouverez un nouveau relevé de régularisation que je vous prie de me renvoyer signé dans les 20 jours de la présente.

Ce relevé est basé sur l'accord que nous avons pris en ce qui concerne l'activité de l'association, laquelle est donc assujettie avec droit à déduction pour 40 % du montant des cotisations, pourcentage qui représente les prestations de services individualisables réalisées pour le compte des membres, le restant de l'activité étant exempté par l'article 44, §2, 11° du Code de la TVA.

Si la situation de fait s'écartait fortement de ce pourcentage, je vous engage à contacter mon office afin de fixer un autre pourcentage.

Je reste évidemment à votre disposition pour tout renseignement.

C. HOUET
inspecteur ppl a.i.

VAT Validation Response

Yes, valid VAT number

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| VAT number | BE 0477480817 |
| Member State | BE |
| Name | ASBL EUROPEAN SATELLITE OPERATORS ASS |
| Address | PL DU CHAMP DE MARS5/20E 1050 IXELLES |
| Consultation Number | |
| Date when request received | 16/11/2011 (dd/mm/yyyy) |