



Outer Space Institute
www.outerspaceinstitute.ca
info@outerspaceinstitute.ca

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

May 31, 2024

Dear Ms. Holla-Maini,

The Outer Space Institute Society (OSI) recently submitted a formal application for the status of Permanent Observer Organisation of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space (COPUOS).

OSI wishes to attend the upcoming COPUOS plenary session from June 19-28th, as an ad hoc observer, pending the final decision of the Committee on observer status. We also request the opportunity to make a presentation during the agenda item 5, General Exchange of Views, on the OSI's structure, organisation and focus, and its potential to support the mandate of the Committee especially in relation to space sustainability, including sustainable lunar operations.

The OSI will be represented by Michael Byers, OSI Co-Director, and Roohi Dalal, OSI Postdoctoral Fellow.

As per our application, the OSI was founded in 2019 as a global network of space experts united by their commitment to highly innovative, transdisciplinary research that addresses grand challenges facing the continued use and exploration of outer space. OSI is comprised of an international cadre of 29 Fellows and 14 Junior Fellows including physical scientists, social scientists, lawyers, engineers, industry leaders, and policy makers. OSI is incorporated in British Columbia, Canada, as the non-profit Outer Space Institute Society.

Over the past five years, OSI has been active in developing new ideas and recommendations on a number of challenges relating to outer space safety and sustainability including space debris, uncontrolled reentries of rocket bodies, and light and radio pollution from satellite mega-constellations.

As a non-profit institute seeking to advance space sustainability, we look forward to working with COPUOS, the most experienced, representative and authoritative body addressing the safe and sustainable development of outer space. We additionally aim to assist the Committee with insights and suggestions based on the research and recommendations undertaken by the Institute through its projects and regular international workshops.

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

We hope that our request for ad hoc observer status at the upcoming COPUOS plenary session will be considered favourably, and look forward to hearing from you at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Aaron Boley
Co-Director
Outer Space Institute