



SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS

**SGAC Statement at the 67th Annual Session of the
United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

Agenda Item 12
Space and Climate Change

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Thank you, Honourable Chair. The Space Generation Advisory Council, SGAC, sincerely appreciates the opportunity to provide the views of the youth on space and climate change.

Honourable Chair, the youth of today recognise that the future of the planet is inherently tied to their own. Our planet continues to heat up and we must unite in our efforts to preserve it. The time to take action is now.

As representatives of the space youth, we believe that the space community should be at the forefront of the fight against climate change. Prompted by the release of Our Common Agenda, in December 2021 we established a policy division on Space for Climate Action. Over the course of 2022, this diverse group of young professionals from our Policy & Advocacy Platform worked hard to collect the views and proposals of the space generation on how space could, and should, contribute to the fight against climate change.

Distinguished Delegates, it has been two years now since we released a comprehensive Report outlining the official policy position of the Space Generation Advocacy Council on the role of space in climate action. Our Report is titled “Saving Our Future on Earth Through Our Presence in Space”, and is available online for the kind consideration of all Delegations.

The SGAC Climate Report outlines 31 practical recommendations emphasising the need for a decisive approach to increase the sustainability of the space industry as a way to ensure a better future for all humankind. The recommendations include decoupling the space and defence sectors, streamlining environmental impact assessments into current and future



missions, and using the exploration of planets like Venus and Mars as viable case studies for understanding our climate. These recommendations target various stakeholders across the scientific community, academia, governments and policymakers, as well as commercial actors.

Since its publication, SGAC has been extensively advocating the Climate Report at the international level. In 2021, we presented its first draft at the always insightful UN/Austria Symposium on “Space For Climate Action”. In 2022, we presented our recommendations at the ASCEND Conference organised by the International Academy of Astronautics, prompting a very dynamic discussion with space agencies and companies present on site. Together with the International Astronautical Federation, in May 2023 we organised a dedicated plenary session during the first Global Space Conference on Climate Change (GLOC), where senior leaders and young space pioneers had an unprecedented and inspiring debate on the enabling role that space technology can play in the fight against climate change. This year, we continue to promote our recommendations and work on their implementation with relevant stakeholders.

In conclusion, we are grateful for the opportunity to provide the views of the young generation on the role of space for climate action and stand ready to support the activities of this Honourable Committee in such a critical field. We encourage all Distinguished Delegations to read the SGAC Climate Report, and we look forward to working together with all interested stakeholders to save our future in space through our presence on Earth.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.