

**Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

**Sixty-eight session**

Vienna, 25 June 2 July 2025

## **MOON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION STATEMENT**

### **Agenda Item 14: Space Exploration and Innovation**

Mister Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

It is an honour for the Moon Village Association, as an Observer member, to address this session of the COPUOS and discuss, under this agenda item, issues related to lunar governance

Mister Chair,

MVA has created in 2021 a neutral forum for multi-stakeholder discussions on lunar exploration and utilization to support the creation of an enabling environment for sustainable activities on the Moon and in its orbit.

This forum is The *Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities* or GEGSLA. GEGSLA, published in 2023 the “*Recommended Framework and Key elements for Peaceful and Sustainable Lunar Activities*” and its Annexes. This document is the only available, at the moment, related to this important topic

Since January 2023, GEGSLA initiated its Operational Phase, engaging over 200 experts from more than 40 countries. The following working groups are operating:

- WG1: Lunar Environmental Protection
- WG2: Lunar Technical Coordination
- WG3: Lunar Multi-stakeholder Coordination.

Is important to note that, on June 19, the WG2 organized the International Virtual Workshop on Interoperability and Lunar Activities Database, in cooperation with Lunar Surface Innovation Consortium (LSIC) and Lunar Operating Guidelines for Infrastructure Consortium (LOGIC). The preliminary results of this Workshop, together with more details of the other WGs, are included in the A/AC.105/2025/CRP.18

The annual report is available on the GEGSLA website. Delegations and observers not yet involved are welcome to join and support the Group.

MVA, together with IAU, COSPAR and IAA, considers urgent the issue of Defining and Protecting Lunar Sites of Special Scientific Interest to balance the scientific and commercial activities. A brainstorming call with Delegations was held in April to discuss the way forward. At the present COPUOS, a document on this topic is published (A/AC.105/2025/CRP.23) to discuss these issues

Delegations interested in this topic are invited to contact the relevant organizations

MVA welcome and support the establishment of the United Nations Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation (ATLAC) as this is the focal point for any future consultation on Lunar Activities. MVA is ready to support ATLAC as soon as it becomes operational.

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Thank you for your attention,

Dr. Giuseppe Reibaldi

President, Moon Village Association