

Germany, Item 7

UNCOPUOS
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Item 7: Report of the Legal Subcommittee on its sixty-fourth session

Statement by Germany

Honorable Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

Germany welcomes the fact that the Legal Subcommittee at its 64th session took important decisions and adopted a full report by consensus. We would like to express our gratitude to Prof. Ripol-Carulla of Spain for his successful leadership as chair, as well as to the Secretariat and everyone else involved for their constructive collaboration.

As our dependence on outer space as a global commons beyond national jurisdiction grows, we continue to value the Outer Space Treaty and other UN instruments as a solid and robust legal basis for space activities. COPUOS and its subcommittees must continue to spearhead the progressive development of global space governance, in particular with regard to space debris, space traffic and space resources.

We are therefore grateful for the productive exchange at LSC this year, particularly under agenda item 11 on space traffic management, furthering discussions about the legal and policy aspects of space traffic. We thank all delegations for their support and constructive approach to the proposal for a Study Group on Legal and Policy Aspects of Space Traffic. We look forward to reaching a consensus at this COPUOS session on its establishment.

We congratulate Mr. Steven Freeland and Mr. Ayman Mahmoud Mohamed Ahmed on their appointments as chair and co-chair of the Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resources Activities. The Draft Principles under discussion at LSC were an excellent first step towards a much-needed framework for space resource activities, and the progress we made in developing these principles was noteworthy and commendable.

We thank all the delegations that participated in the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five UN Space Treaties, progressing on the development of a template for submissions with reference to Article XI of the Outer Space Treaty, by which State Parties agree to share information on their space activities.

Last but not least, we would like to commend UNOOSA for its efforts in promoting the application of the UN space treaties and other instruments developed by COPUOS, including capacity-building in the areas of space law and policy.

Thank you.