

Ecuador
Instituto Geografico Militar
Email communication, received 2 October 2024

Regarding the Invitation Circular OOSA/2024/48 CU 2024/244 of September 2, 2024, whose subject is *“Action Team on Lunar Consultation Activities (ATLAC): Invitation to the member States of the Committee to present contributions on the office and the work plan of the Action Team”*; the Instituto Geografico Militar of Ecuador hereby submits relevant contributions according to its perspective in relation to the work to be developed by the Action Team.

Space activity on the Moon and its surroundings is accelerating exponentially. Time is moving forward and the next stage of human development in outer space depends in large part on the ability of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) to achieve substantial and unified progress.

Accordingly, new principles must be adopted to ensure the success and sustainability of outer space and, more importantly, to avoid conflict and harmful interference by States.

Among the main contributions that Ecuador considers to be a priority, are:

Policy Development:

Formulating international agreements or frameworks for lunar exploration activities.
Establishing guidelines for the sustainable use of lunar resources and preventing harmful environmental impacts.

Regulatory and Legal Frameworks:

- Assisting in the development of new legal frameworks or updating existing international space law to cover lunar activities.
- Contributing to discussions on property rights, resource claims, and sovereignty issues in the context of the Moon.

Resource Management and Utilization:

Engaging in discussions on how lunar resources like water and minerals can be utilized responsibly.
Proposing guidelines for the extraction and sharing of lunar resources to prevent conflicts.

Capacity Building and Inclusivity:

Offering training programs and educational initiatives to ensure that developing nations have access to the knowledge and tools needed for lunar exploration.
Ensuring inclusivity in lunar activities, so that all nations, regardless of space capability, have a voice in decision-making processes.

These contributions would help shape the bureau's strategic direction, focusing on safe, sustainable, and inclusive lunar exploration activities.