

Belgian Statement

General exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in exploration, exploitation, and utilization of space resources
Agenda item 14

Madam Chair,

The Belgian Delegation would like to reiterate its deep thanks to the moderator and vice-moderator, Mister Andrzej Mitzal and Mister Steven Freeland, for their work and their efforts during the difficult time that separated this session from the 58th session of the Sub-Committee. This work has allowed us to move forward, despite the circumstances, on this topic and, more particularly, on the issue of the establishment of a working group under item 14 of the agenda.

We would also like to thank other delegations which have shown support to this idea, either by supporting the Belgian-Greek proposal submitted to the Sub-Committee in 2019, or by submitting their own proposal to the same end. We particularly thank the German and the Finnish Delegations for drafting a new proposal and for the associated consultation process which allows us, today, to join them and support this new proposal. In our view, this new text can be considered as the revised proposal that Belgium and Greece were expected to submit during this session of the Legal Sub-Committee, as it was noted in the report of its 58th session.

We hope this joint effort and the momentum will now be acknowledged by the Sub-Committee and that we can move forward with the decision on the establishment of the working group in order to start substantial considerations and exchanges of views on this topic at the 61st session of the Sub-Committee.

I thank you very much.