

UNCOPUOS Legal Subcommittee
60th Session 31 May – 11 June 2021, Vienna

Statement by Germany

Agenda item 8 – Capacity-building in space law

Honorable Madam Chair, distinguished delegates,

A firm understanding of the rules and principles of outer space law is the prerequisite to conducting outer space activities in conformity with international law. With the emergence of new space actors and the growing reliance of modern society on space infrastructure, capacity-building in space law is essential.

Therefore, we support the Office for Outer Space Affairs in its efforts to provide and disseminate information on the international instruments of space law and constantly assessing suitable approaches to promoting their application and implementation. We particularly welcome the project “Space Law for New Space Actors” launched in 2019 providing institutional capacity-building tailored to the needs and requirements of policy-makers and legislators of the requesting Member State.

International conferences are another important tool for fostering a common understanding of the international legal regime for outer space activities, for assessing the need of its further development and for shaping the future global space governance. We would like to congratulate UNOOSA and the Economic Commission for Africa to the successful online conference on “Emerging Issues in Space Law and Policy – Perspectives for African Nations”. We also thank UNOOSA, supported by the UK, for conducting a series of multi-stakeholder virtual events under the Promoting Space Sustainability Project, enabling awareness-raising and capacity building related to the implementation of the LTS Guidelines.

Although we regret that in person attendance was not possible at these and similar events, we would like to highlight the opportunities online participation offers for a broader and more inclusive audience.

Thank you for your kind attention.