

## **SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS

SGAC Statement at the
62nd Annual Session of the Legal Subcommittee
of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Agenda Item 3

22 March 2023

Presented by: Davide Petrillo, SGAC Executive Director



Thank you, Honourable Chair.

The Space Generation Advisory Council, SGAC, would like to thank you for your leadership and support for this Committee. We would also like to thank the Secretariat for the preparation of the 62nd Session of the Legal Subcommittee. We deeply appreciate the opportunity to report on the recent activities of SGAC.

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates, SGAC has been a Permanent Observer to COPUOS and its Subcommittees since 2001. Consistent with previous years, SGAC is proud to report a successful 2022, and a promising start to 2023. In 2022, SGAC continued to prove to be an invaluable platform for students and young professionals in the space sector to funnel their passion and talent. As an inherently global organisation with volunteers working together across the world, SGAC has continued growing, now representing more than 24,000 students and young space professionals between the ages of 18 to 35, from more than 165 countries to the United Nations, space agencies, industry, and academia.

Honourable Chair, 2022 has been an extraordinary year also for our efforts in space law, policy, and advocacy.

To intensify our efforts in the areas of policy and advocacy, SGAC has established a new Space Generation Advocacy and Policy Platform (SGAPP) in 2022. Through the Platform, every year SGAC releases united space policy positions on behalf of the youth as well as comprehensive overviews of the policy and advocacy activities conducted within our organisation. Last December, we released a comprehensive report outlining our united policy position on the role of space in the fight against climate change. The SGAC Climate Report is available on our website and we are now working on its implementation in cooperation with our sponsors and partners. In 2023, we are developing a policy position on space sustainability to propose an intergenerational, international and interdisciplinary pact for the sustainable uses of space.

Distinguished Delegates, SGAC is especially committed to the peaceful and cooperative development of the Moon. In 2021 we presented to this Honourable Committee our Report on Effective and Adaptive Governance for a Lunar Ecosystem - EAGLE - voicing the united position of the space youth on this critical topic. This year, we note, with great appreciation, the recent efforts from Member States of the Committee to promote the



development of tools and practices for enhanced information sharing under Article XI of the Outer Space Treaty. On this, from our side, we are pleased to announce the release of the Lunar Policy Handbook (LPH), a practical guide to navigate the nascent realm of lunar governance which will be inaugurated at a side-event to the Legal Subcommittee on 27 March.

Honourable Chair, our Space Law and Policy Project Group is building space law capacities worldwide by drafting, reporting and sharing knowledge of space law and policy. The Project Group is committed to supporting the development of space law and policy infrastructure on the African continent, with one of our teams developing a White Paper on Best Practices that can serve as a model for developing relevant domestic space legislation in African countries looking to reform their local laws, also exploring the role that Intra-African Space partnerships play in the broader global context, especially in terms of space commercialisation and regulation.

In summary, Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates, SGAC has shown positive growth over the past year, which would not have been possible without the tireless effort of our volunteers, as well as the support of our international partners and sponsors, including Lockheed Martin, NASA, the Space Foundation, Blue Origin's Club for the Future, Northrop Grumman, the UK Space Agency, the European Space Agency, the German Aerospace Centre (DLR), the Italian Space Agency (ASI), the French Space Agency (CNES), the International Astronautical Federation, Planet, Euroconsult, Airbus, and many others.

As we plan our activities for 2023, we want to reflect on the hard work and outstanding efforts from SGAC members, as well as our mission as the leading international network for students and young professionals in the space sector.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that being a Permanent Observer at the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is invaluable to SGAC; the organisation is grateful and honoured to be able to report to you, and remains available to support you in your work.

I thank you for your attention.

Thank you, Honourable Chair.