

**Open Lunar Foundation**  
**Statement under agenda Item 4**  
**“Activities of Non-Governmental Entities Related to Space Law”**  
**COPUOS Legal Subcommittee, March 23, 2023,**  
**Presented by Dr. Antonino Salmeri**

Thank you Madame Chair.

The Open Lunar Foundation would like to thank and congratulate you for your impeccable leadership of this Honourable Committee, and express its gratitude to the Secretariat for their excellent preparation of this session. We very much appreciate the opportunity to update the Distinguished Delegations on our activities related to space law through the following remarks.

First of all, together with the Secure World Foundation, the Space Generation Advisory Council, and For All Moonkind, we are pleased to announce the release of the Lunar Policy Handbook (LPH), a practical guide to help stakeholders navigate the nascent realm of lunar governance. The LPH provides a snapshot of current legal and policy principles related to the exploration and use of the Moon, as well as a detailed consideration of the main policy questions raised by the various types of lunar activities. The goal is to provide foundational support to policy-makers interested in lunar governance while also helping lunar operators understand the policy implications of their missions. All Distinguished Delegates are cordially invited to receive a copy of the LPH during the side event that will take place in the Mozart room on March 27th at 6:30 pm.

In addition to cooperating with like-minded organizations, we also promote the establishment of specialized entities that can foster the safe and sustainable development of the Moon. In 2021, we supported the creation of the Breaking Ground Trust, an independent legal entity designed to set intentional positive precedents for lunar resource management. Through the purchase of regolith collected by lander missions, the Breaking Ground Trust aims to prototype concrete solutions that can be replicated. The Trust is now negotiating regolith purchases with commercial operators that could set positive precedents beyond resource management.

This year, we are supporting the creation of a dedicated, independent Lunar Policy Platform (LPP) facilitating the cooperative development of lunar policies and standards of behavior. The LPP will have a multi-layer structure featuring the participation of all interested governments and lunar operators as Partners, relevant international organizations and non-governmental entities as Contributors, and selected expert individuals as Advisors. To be effective, the Platform will operate through asynchronous deliberative processes, seeking primary inputs from Partners on a bilateral basis and aggregating them for collective iterative review, with support from Contributors and Advisors as relevant and appropriate. To be impactful, the LPP will operate with a result-oriented approach to produce three types of deliverables: Priorities Reports, Standards of Behaviour and Coordination Briefings. LPP Reports will help policy makers in identifying key areas to be addressed for sustainable lunar development. LPP Standards will consolidate agreement among operators on voluntary norms of behavior for safe lunar activities, such as information sharing under Article XI of the Outer Space Treaty. Finally, LPP Briefings will facilitate multi-party consultation among stakeholders to clarify misunderstandings and coordinate lunar operations.

As relevant and appropriate, deliverables produced by the Platform will also be submitted to this Honourable Committee for its further consideration.

At present, the LPP Director is consulting relevant stakeholders to gather feedback and collect interest to participate in a Pilot to be held between May and November this year. The goal of the Pilot will be to test the concrete functioning of the LPP via the production of a Lunar Priorities Report. All Countries are warmly invited to participate in the LPP Pilot, and we encourage all interested Delegations to approach us during the session.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.