



SPACE DATA
A S S O C I A T I O N

Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini
Director
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
Vienna International Centre
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Vienna
Austria

*Aegir House,
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19th March 2024

Dear Ms Holla-Maini,

As you are aware, the Space Data Association (SDA) recently submitted a formal application for the status of Permanent Observer Organisation of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Use of Outer Space (COPUOS).

SDA is interested in attending the upcoming LSC session on the 15-26th April, as an ad hoc observer, pending the final decision of the Committee on observer status, and if successful, would like to have the opportunity to make a legal presentation on the role the SDA could play for Space Sustainability.

The SDA will be represented by Andrew D'Uva, SDA Strategy and Policy Advisor.

As per our application, SDA was founded in 2009 to enhance safety of flight via sharing of operational data and promotion of best practices across all users of space. The SDA was created with a clear vision:

- Seek and facilitate improved management of the shared resources of the Space Environment.
- Seek and facilitate improvements in the safety and integrity of satellite operations through wider and improved coordination between satellite operators.
- Improve the accuracy of collision avoidance predictions.
- Adopt best practices across industry.
- Provide necessary framework for full operations (legal, technical).
- Address operational issues with current cross-industry conjunction coordination.

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The Space Data Association led the way in terms of demonstrating just what is possible when we enable widespread industry collaboration. It has been providing reliable flight safety products for approximately 30 spacecraft operators for 14 years now. The service provides conjunction warnings and operator points of contact for around 700 spacecraft occupying all orbital regimes. The SDA's Space Data Centre (SDC), built by AGI and maintained and operated by COMSPOC Corporation, has a proven track record of providing high availability Space Traffic Coordination (STC) products since becoming operational on 15 July 2010.

SDA, a not-for-profit association formed by satellite operators to provide reliable and efficient data-sharing critical to the safety of the space environment, look forward to working with COPUOS and having a strong collaboration with the objective of maximizing the benefits of space on earth and ensuring a sustainable growth of the ecosystem to foster the innovation of space and the sustainable use of resources for the benefit of all.

We remain at your disposal to provide any further information you may require.

We hope that our request for ad hoc observer at the upcoming LSC session will be considered favourably and look forward to hearing back at the earliest opportunity.

With best regards,



Andrew D'Uva
SDA Strategy Policy Advisor