



## ***Collaboration in space for the common good of humanity***

### **ACES Worldwide, Item 3**

#### Statement of ACES Worldwide to Legal Subcommittee 64th Session, Agenda Item 3, General Exchange of Views

#### **Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,**

On behalf of the Alliance for Collaboration in the Exploration of Space (ACES Worldwide), I would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity to present information about our organization's work in space law, policy, and international cooperation under this agenda item.

At the outset, we extend our sincere congratulations to the African Space Agency and the distinguished delegates from countries in Africa on the official inauguration of the Agency in April 2025. We are particularly pleased to note that two of our Global Advisory Council members, Mr. Meshack Ndiritu and Dr. Temidayo Oniosun, played instrumental roles in the establishment of the Agency, and we offer them our heartfelt congratulations. This important milestone serves as a timely reminder of the value of international cooperation and the unifying potential of space exploration.

One of the core objectives of ACES Worldwide is to promote international collaboration in the peaceful uses and exploration of outer space, and the application of space technologies for sustainable economic and social development. In particular, our *Space and Sustainability Compact Agreement Initiative* seeks to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the *Pact for the Future*, and the *Space2030 Agenda* by fostering cooperation between established space actors, emerging space stakeholders, and end-users of space technology in realize one or more of the 17 SDGs.

Established in 2021, ACES Worldwide is a non-governmental, non-profit organization that operates through alliances, action agenda papers, and roundtable discussions. We also carry out educational and programmatic initiatives aimed at promoting equitable and inclusive space laws and policies globally. Our work is carried out by a distinguished and diverse Board of Directors, comprising eight individuals from four continents, reflecting a wide range of professional backgrounds and generational perspectives within the space sector. As a collaborative alliance, ACES Worldwide partners with twelve organizations working actively in the space sector, who serve as our Alliance Partners. Our Global Advisory Council, which advises the Board, consists of 36 experts from 23 countries, including representatives from BRICS, G20, and SAARC countries. Notably, our Global Advisory Council includes two former Directors of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, Dr. Sergio Camacho-Lara and Dr. Simonetta Di Pippo, as well as the former Chair of COPUOS, Dr. David Kendall. Incidentally, ACES Worldwide's Chair, Professor Joseph N. Pelton, who is also the Dean Emeritus of the International Space University, worked with Dr. Kendall to establish the ISU, which is headquartered in France.

ACES Worldwide remains firmly committed to advancing equitable access to outer space for all. Our ongoing initiatives — including the *Space and Sustainability Compact Agreement Initiative*, the *Living in Space Initiative*, and our *Action Agenda Papers* on topics such as solar storms, planetary defense, space-based solar power, and the sustainability of outer space — are designed



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to enhance coherence and understanding between existing legal frameworks and emerging space technologies.

Over the past four years, ACES Worldwide has organized sessions at the US-Africa Leadership Conference and the Science Summit, addressing topics such as planetary protection from solar storms and asteroids, the Space and Sustainability Compact Agreement Initiative, and space medicine research and global health. These events featured over 30 speakers from 20 countries across six continents. We have also presented at key forums such as the International Astronautical Congress and the International Telecommunication Union's Kaleidoscope Conference.

In recognition of the growing relevance of our work to the objectives of this Committee, we have applied for permanent observer status with COPUOS this year, as we believe this is an appropriate time to contribute directly to its important work on peaceful use and exploration of outer space. With the combined expertise, dedication, and enthusiasm of our Board, Global Advisory Council, and Alliance Partners, we look forward to contributing to the Committee's research, discussions, and policy development. We intend to serve as a resource for the Committee's Member States, and we would like to offer the expertise of our network in support. We hope to contribute meaningfully to the Committee's priority areas, particularly through the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation Process and working groups such as the Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resource Activities.

We will plan our future initiatives based on the evolving needs of the Member States and the scientific, policy, and legal issues that the Member States identify as important. We warmly invite representatives of Member States to reach out to us—here at the Legal Subcommittee, at the upcoming COPUOS plenary in June, at conferences such as the International Astronautical Congress or online—to explore ways in which we may support and facilitate your efforts within COPUOS. We are eager to contribute to the important work of COPUOS and to help build a more accessible, inclusive, and sustainable space environment.

We express our appreciation to the UNOOSA team for their excellent organization of this Legal Subcommittee session and for their kind and informative support over the past several months in facilitating both our participation and our application for ad hoc and permanent observer status. Also, we thank the Committee and all distinguished delegates for their attention.

**Thank you.**

*Delivered by Dr. Marlène M. Losier, PhD, JD, Founder and Global Advisory Council Member, ACES Worldwide.*