



SPACE SUSTAINABILITY AS A GAME CHANGER: LEGAL BEST PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

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ZIMBABWE: National Regulatory Framework and Sustainability

Introduction:

- Zimbabwe has an established National Space Agency since 2018, promulgated under the Research Act (Chapter 10:22)
- The framework for regulating specifically the space activities, is still under development.
- The country's approach to space activities is influenced by both domestic and international considerations under the UN Space Law Treaties .
- Zimbabwe is working on developing a national space policy to provide a comprehensive framework for space activities.
- Specific legislation related to space activities may not yet be fully developed. However, regulatory oversight typically falls under various government ministries and agencies, such as the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science, and Technology Development.

Creation of National Space Policy:

- To guarantee sustained space operations, Zimbabwe must work to create a national space policy.
- The responsible satellite deployment, collision avoidance, and space debris management protocols that are necessary to preserve space's long-term use can all be found in a well-defined policy.

Function of the Zimbabwe National Geospatial and Space Agency (ZINGSA)

- To manage space programs and coordinate international cooperation to support sustainability.

ZIMBABWE: International Regulatory framework for sustainability

Adherence to International Space Treaties

Outer Space Treaty (1967):

- This treaty, which Zimbabwe is a signatory to, emphasises that space should be used for the benefit of all humankind and prohibits claims of sovereignty over celestial bodies. By adhering to this treaty, Zimbabwe supports the principle of space as a global commons, which is a foundational aspect of sustainable space use.

Liability and Registration Conventions:

- The Liability Convention holds countries accountable for damages caused by their space objects, and the Registration Convention requires countries to register their space objects. These conventions promote transparency and responsibility, which are vital for mitigating space debris and ensuring that space activities do not harm other space missions.

Cooperation with ITU

- Zimbabwe supports the orderly use of the radio-frequency spectrum and space orbits by adhering to ITU standards regarding radio frequencies and satellite orbits. This is crucial for avoiding satellite interference and efficiently using the limited orbital space.

African Union Space Policy

- Zimbabwe can better coordinate with larger continental efforts to support sustainable space operations by taking part in the AU's regional space policy initiatives. Regional collaboration can facilitate the development of shared infrastructure and increase the efficacy of solutions for mitigating space debris

FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR LEGAL INSTRUMENTS



Regulation of Satellite Launches
and Ownership



Laws that stimulate private sector
participation



Guidelines for orbital debris and
environmental accountability
aligned with international norms



Currently Zimbabwe
predominantly depends on
international treaties for its space
legal frameworks

Thank you for you attention

My contact information is as displayed, and we appreciate receiving your inputs.

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