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English

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# **Space Generation Advocacy and Policy Platform**

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# **Space Generation Advisory Council**

# Space Generation Advocacy and Policy Platform Conference Room Paper for the 61st Session of the UN COPUOS Legal Subcommittee March 28th - April 8th, 2022

5. Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law.

Report of the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) on its space policy activities

# I. Introduction

1. This report provides an overview of the most important space policy activities conducted by the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) in areas related to the work of this honourable Legal Subcommittee.

# II. Establishment of the Space Generation Advocacy and Policy Platform (SGAPP)

2. The Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) is delighted to announce the establishment of the Space Generation Advocacy and Policy Platform (SGAPP). Through this new Platform, SGAC will survey the ideas and activities of our members on space policy & advocacy in order to convey them with a united voice to the global space community.

3. The Platform is composed of a central Policy and Advocacy Team (PAT) and various specialised divisions focusing on selected topics and/or geographic areas, and is led by two Policy & Advocacy Coordinators. The purposes of the Platform are to:

- A) Develop, advocate & implement united space policy positions on behalf of the youth;
- B) Coordinate, consolidate & disseminate space policy activities conducted within SGAC.

4. This Policy and Advocacy Platform will allow SGAC to increase the effectiveness of its existing policy and advocacy activities, as well as to develop and implement new initiatives in these areas. The Platform will formulate and propose policy positions for SGAC, which are then formally adopted through our Executive Committee consisting of a representative structure of our membership. Through this Platform, SGAC aims to increase the relevance and impact of the young generations in global policy and advocacy processes for the peaceful, prosperous and sustainable uses of space. The Platform will allow SGAC to strategically centralise and coordinate our Policy and Advocacy activities to the United Nations, international multilateral organisations, and national governments. In pursuance of this vision, the SGAPP will produce:

- A) Policy reports providing the united space policy position of the youth on selected space topics, coupled with related advocacy campaigns and implementation actions.
- B) Policy overviews consolidating policy inputs and activities throughout SGAC, coupled with related dissemination and implementation actions.

5. The Platform's activities in 2022 will focus on two main areas: "Space for Climate Action" and "Sustainable Space". In harmony with the strategy outlined in "Our Common Agenda" by His Excellency the Secretary General of the United Nations, we will develop our next policy position on the role that space could and should play in the fight against climate change. In synergy with this year's theme for the World Space Week, we will dedicate our first policy overview to the contributions provided by SGAC for the sustainability of space. Over the course of 2022 we will survey the proposals and activities of the young generations on these critical topics and will be pleased to submit our policy positions and overviews to the attention of this Honourable Subcommittee next year.

6. To strengthen our cooperation with local space policy makers, our Platform is also provided with regional divisions championing the policy positions and activities of the young generation to regional policymakers. By holding space policy briefings, public webinars with experts, social media outreach, and more, these divisions work to regionally advocate SGAC policy positions and spearhead the development of tailored recommendations at the local level. The first kind of these divisions is the US Task Force, which is currently in their second year of operation. By building key relationships with both policymakers and the broader space policy community, the US Task Force is elevating the voices of SGAC to the US space policy decision-making level in the pursuit of a fair, sustainable, and cooperative future in space.

7. All Delegations interested in cooperating with SGAC in the areas of space policy & advocacy are encouraged to contact the Platform at <a href="mailto:sgapp@spacegeneration.org">sgapp@spacegeneration.org</a>.

#### III. SGAC Activities related to the exploration and use of the Moon

### The Lunar Governance Report

8. At the 60th Session of the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS), SGAC submitted a Conference Room Paper (<u>A/AC.105/C.2/2021/CRP.13</u>) presenting the <u>EAGLE Lunar Governance Report</u>, a document outlining the position and proposals of the young generation in the regulation of lunar activities. In light of the increased number of missions planned for the present decade, SGAC urged State Delegations at the LSC to begin the necessary discussions towards the development of appropriate governance mechanisms for activities in the exploration and use of the Moon.

9. The Lunar Governance Report was developed by a specialized working group of the SGAPP working on Effective and Adaptive Governance for a Lunar Ecosystem - the E.A.G.L.E. Team. Further to the LSC, SGAC presented the Lunar Governance Report before other prestigious international institutions such as the International Space Exploration Coordination Group (ISECG), as well as during prominent international events like the 72nd International Astronautical Congress (IAC) in Dubai.

10. Following the positive reception of the Report by the international community, SGAC is now working with like minded entities and partners for the implementation of the proposals laid down in the Report. Together with the Global Space Law Center at Cleveland-State University, the EAGLE Team is working to support governments, space agencies and private companies in the development of enhanced practices for information sharing through the expanded use of Article XI OST. SGAC is also pleased to closely cooperate with the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities (GEGSLA) convened by the Moon Village Association on the consideration of potential governance solutions for the safe and sustainable conduct of lunar activities. Finally, we are delighted to report that this year SGAC became a Convener of the Moon Dialogs initiative, joining a prestigious group that includes other Observer organizations to this Subcommittee like the Open Lunar Foundation, For All Moonkind and the Secure World Foundation.

11. All Delegations interested in cooperating with SGAC in the area of lunar governance are encouraged to contact the E.A.G.L.E. Team at <u>eagle@spacegeneration.org</u>.

## The Technical Unit Research for a Thriving Lunar Ecosystem (T.U.R.T.L.E.)

12. The Technical Unit Research for a Thriving Lunar Ecosystem (T.U.R.T.L.E. Group) is a specialised division of the SGAPP responsible for coordinating original and innovative lunar research from the young generations. The mission of T.U.R.T.L.E. is to enable the sustainable development of the Moon as a circular ecosystem by adopting a unique holistic approach to lunar research. The T.U.R.T.L.E. Group promotes international cooperation, concurrent design and interoperability as key features for the success of future lunar missions and technologies. Through its groundbreaking research, T.U.R.T.L.E. aims to be instrumental in the global development of a Lunar Exploration Technology Adaptive Roadmap (L.E.T.A.R.).

13. All Delegations interested in cooperating with SGAC in the area of technical lunar research are encouraged to contact the T.U.R.T.L.E. Group at <u>turtle@spacegeneration.org</u>.

### IV. SGAC studies and initiatives in the areas of space law & policy

14. The SGAC Space Law and Policy Project Group is currently building space law capacities worldwide by drafting, reporting and sharing space law knowledge with our SGAC National Points of Contact. The SLP Project Group is moreover committed to supporting the development of space law and policy infrastructure on the African continent, with our draft space policy for the Republic of Uganda currently undergoing a second reading. The SLP Project Group has also organised capacity-building seminars in Singapore on practical aspects of licensing, authorization and supervision in lieu of domestic space legislation. Similar initiatives are germinating in Trinidad and Tobago, Canada, India and others in the Asia-Pacific region.

15. SGAC strongly believes all nations with relevant capacities must enable the use of remote sensing to monitor and provide evidence of fundamental human rights violations. The SLP Project Group is therefore continuing its global stakeholder consultations to understand and advance the justiciable use of remote sensing data in the interests and for the benefit of all humankind.

16. The SLP Project Group has analysed national implementation of UN Long Term Sustainability Guidelines. The final report on the measures implemented by 20 countries, a broad geographic and economic range of countries, to encourage best practices and identify implementation gaps, is near completion.

17. Finally, the SLP Project Group is investigating the history, status and current multi stakeholder perspectives surrounding space security mechanisms, to identify existing gaps and best practices. The final report for this project is also near completion.

18. All Delegations interested in cooperating with the studies and educational activities in the areas of space law and policy conducted by SGAC' Space Law & Policy Project Group are encouraged to contact the Project Group at <a href="mailto:slp@spacegeneration.org">slp@spacegeneration.org</a>