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THE HAGUE SPACE RESOURCES GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP: SECOND PROGRESS
REPORT AND THE WAY FORWARD

Abstract

This paper reports on the developments of The Hague Space Resources Governance Working Group since its establishment in 2015, and more specifically it provides an update since the first Progress Report presented during the IISL Colloquium at the 67th IAC in Guadalajara in September 2016 (IAC-16-E7.2.1).

After a brief reminder of the purpose, objectives and structure of the Working Group, the paper elaborates on the progress made on the "Building Blocks" that the Group formulated for a future governance system for the use of space resources.

It reports on the outcome of the three face-to-face meetings of the Working Group held in 2016 and 2017 in Leiden, two of which took place after the first Progress Report was presented. These meetings resulted in a considerable level of agreement among the members of the Working Group on the eighteen "Building Blocks" that could form the basis for negotiations on an international agreement or non-binding regulatory instrument. The paper elaborates on the content of the said building blocks, with reference to the discussions that took place during the meetings of the Working Group.

Finally, the paper provides insight into the prospects for a successful conclusion of the activities of the Working Group and the way forward toward an international regime for the governance of space resources. All authors are closely involved with the creation and activities of the Working Group.

Note: This paper could fit in either session E.7.2 or E.7.5; it is submitted primarily for the former.