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International Cooperation for the benefits of developing countries and emerging space nations (1)

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SPACE2030 - NEW ERA IN SPACE PARTNERSHIPS

Abstract

The beginning of the space age in the 1950s opened a new unexplored chapter for humanity with implications for the very functioning of our society. The applicability of today's space technology is incredibly broad, however, resulting from its central importance the increasing number of actors has strong implications for the future of outer space, as these changes are inevitably influencing the overall governance and nature of space activities. To address the growing complexity of outer space activities, the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) has mandated the Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) to organize a milestone event (UNISPACE+50) to take place in June 2018 as a special segment of its 61st session. The aim of UNISPACE+50 is to promote Space2030 agenda and to address the use of space technologies and applications for everyone, everywhere supporting the three main global United Nations frameworks; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris climate agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The cornerstone of the "Space2030" is to build stronger partnerships and strengthen international cooperation and coordination in the peaceful uses of outer space at all levels in consonance with the targets of Goal (SDG) 17 'Partnerships for the goals' by strengthening the means of global partnership for development and recognizing the benefits of partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. In line with UNOOSA's commitment to address these issues, establishing global space partnership for the SDGs as a voluntary partnership would facilitate optimal service delivery through existing space assets and promote international cooperation among countries to develop innovative space systems and solutions to assist countries in monitoring and achieving the goals. In order to address the growing importance and role of private sector in space, the General Assembly in its A/C.4/72/L.2 resolution agreed that UNOOSA should pursue greater engagement with industry and private sector entities as to improve their support and contributions for the overall work of the Office. The Office is eager to contribute to this approach through its unique expertise and focus on the space sector by setting up the global compact for space. This paper will analyse the interconnection of Space2030 with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs, with special focus on Goal 17 "Partnership for the goals" through UNOOSA's present and future engagement with relevant stakeholders in the space sector.